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Daily Records of  
**JOHN W. KERR**  
Hamilton, Ontario  
Fisheries Overseer and Inspector  
Southern Ontario, 1864-1888

Presented to  
**ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM OF ZOOLOGY**  
by his son, Charles J. Kerr

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## The Fishery Laws.

### Discussion at the Board of Trade

Mr. Mackenzie, Hamilton, called attention to the necessity of assimilating the fishery laws, rules and regulations of those parts of the United States bordering on the Dominion, with the laws in force on our own inland lakes and rivers. He explained that while Canada paid great attention to the protection and breeding of fish, the United States seemed to be indifferent to this important matter. This was seriously felt by those who lived along the borders of rivers and lakes. It was very aggravating to the Canadian fishermen on the Detroit river to be prevented from fishing during the close season, while across the narrow channel their United States rivals were taking in immense hauls. Our Government found it necessary to relax their vigilance in consequence of the pressure brought to bear on them by local members, or through complaints of our fishermen, and the consequence was the fish were rapidly being killed off. As the trade in fresh water fish was greatly increasing, it was important to take steps to develop the lake fisheries, which were common to both countries. He complimented the Marine and Fisheries Department on the effective manner in which the fish were protected, and regretted that the game laws were not enforced with equal vigilance by the local Governments.

Mr. Hayes (Detroit) said Mr. Wilmot had met Seth Green, the fish breeder of New York, and they were agreed as to the importance of protecting the fisheries. Steps were being taken in that direction now.

Mr. Mackenzie said the difficulty was the fisheries in the United States were controlled by the several States. The annual value of the produce of the Canadian fisheries reaches the considerable sum of \$11,000,000. About \$6,000,000 worth of this valuable produce was last year exported from the country; the remainder is absorbed in domestic trade and local consumption. The business is yearly increasing, and is described by the Government officers as capable of very great extension. Owing to increased railway facilities and improved methods of preserving fish by artificial freezing, or by packing in snow and ice and by transport in refrigerator cars, the demand for fish food in the United States and Canada has been greatly stimulated. The prospect of a still greater demand renders it important to consider the permanence of this natural resource, and to neglect no means by which its prosperous condition may be maintained. The Government have, in addition to protective measures, adopted the artificial system of fish culture which has been so successfully prosecuted in some parts of Europe, and is now extensively pursued in the United States. There are seven or eight public fish hatching establishments now in operation in Canada. These have turned out during the three or four years past the immense quantity of 15,000,000 young fish bred by the artificial process, and there are now in course of hatching at these establishments about 13,000,000 more of different kinds of fish. Such an enormous addition to the chances of fish increase must certainly result in heavy returns from our inland fisheries within a short time, and as many of the districts within which these young fish have been liberated are situated between Canada and the United States, it seems probable that our neighbors will benefit nearly as much as ourselves by the improvement. From all the enquiries made it appears that Canadian fishermen whose pursuits are confined to these border waters have hitherto labored under some disadvantages by being obliged by our laws to quit fishing, in conformity with our fishing laws, during the spawning seasons, whilst their competitors in the neighboring States continue their fishing throughout the seasons, without being subject to any legal restrictions. This is felt by Canadians engaged in the fisheries to be somewhat invidious. Mr. Whitcher, the Canadian Fisheries Commissioner, sets this forth very fully in his reports, and urges the necessity for assimilating the fishing laws on both sides of the boundary line. He apprehends that otherwise Canada may be forced in justice to her own fishermen, to relax or

abandon entirely the wise provisions hitherto adopted to protect and increase the fish frequenting these border-waters, so as to place the fishermen of both countries on an equal footing; such a contingency would be deplored by those disinterested persons who feel the importance of all our fisheries as a source of good supply and a valuable article of commerce. If the breeding of vast quantities of fish in these Government establishments is also likely to be a benefit to the United States citizens, in common almost with our own people, the other grievance will be aggravated. The bare possibility of such a result is cause for regret, because it might have the effect of discouraging such successful efforts as we have been already making to improve our fisheries, both by natural and artificial means. Hence I think it very desirable that the Government should be strengthened in their endeavors to negotiate a fair approximation on the part of the United States. There have been communications on the discussion between the Federal and the Dominion Governments, but what practical advance has been made does not appear. It is probable that the delays of dealing with several States, each having control of fishing rights, and the possible powerlessness of the Federal authority to influence the action of the State Legislatures, will retard the accomplishment of any such purpose as that which seems so very desirable; but there can be no doubt that public opinion on both sides of the line will eventually produce its effect in leading to the assimilation of our fishery laws.

After some further discussion, the resolution was adopted.

W  
Y







W  
Y



My dear Sir,

Your note apprising me that you paid the Henry Law, your fishing license fee - for this current season is just received; so far as the Grand River fisheries are concerned this is all right, and proper - but for the seine hauling ground in Lake Erie, east of the mouth of the Grand River, you will have to pay me, and get your license before you can haul there. -

Do this at once, and no more shuffling about the matter. -

Yrs truly

Mr Henry Kofs.  
Fisherman -  
Port Maitland.

John W. Law

D. O.

15 May 1876.



Sir,

15 May 1876

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank cheque No. 22, for the sum of five dollars. --

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for license fee, paid by Messrs M. V. Clark, and John M. Johnston, of Sault Ste. Marie, to fish in Lake Ontario, for this current year, and send me the license. --

That is to say; in Lake Ontario, between the side Road, leading from B. Beach, to the Village of Stony Creek, and the side Road lying east of Charles Gray's lot, say about fifty chains Lake frontage including the open public sand beach in front of the Stony Creek pond, the same being in the township of Sault Ste. Marie, and County of Wentworth. --

With due respect,

Hon. Ministers.

I Have &c.

H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

John W. Kent  
S.O.

Wrote Mr. Thomas Elliott.

Toolscap <sup>4</sup>/<sub>25</sub>.



Sir,

13. May 1876. -

I am in receipt of your letter of 8. instant, and in reply, I have the honor to say: that when I discovered the discrepancy between Mr. Bain's Parliamentary return and my books, in the number of persons licensed in B. Bay, &c. (There are none for Dundas Marsh") for the years 1872, 1873, 1874, and 1875, I at once wrote to you on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April last, and I mailed this letter before I saw Mr. Bain at all. - - -

It was on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April last, I accidentally met Mr. Bain, on the public street - James St. Hamilton. I did not call upon him personally, he was going <sup>only</sup> to the Post office, I was coming from it, and we met face to face, as the Memorandum I sent Mr. Whitehead so imports. - - -

If the meeting between us, had not happened as it did, I never would and I never intended to call upon Mr. Bain - personally, nor otherwise. - - -

In reply to your pto: 1. - I beg to state that it might not have appeared to you essential to give the names of the persons sent down by me on 28. of November 1871. per Bank draft pto: 309. - but in as much as they enjoyed the same privileges as those persons whose names Mr. Bain determined in publishing. for the early part of 1872, you will please perceive it is quite natural for me to refer to these names (as Omissions) - enjoying as they did, the same privileges as those in the smaller list of persons, whose names were so published and circulated by Mr. Bain, for the early part of the year 1872, you will please perceive it is quite natural for me to refer to these names (as Omissions.) enjoying as they did, the same privileges as those smaller list of persons whose names were so published and circulated by Mr. Bain, for the early part of the year 1872. - this is the simple reason I assure you, why



I took the liberty of alluding to these 18 persons. . . .

Then for the balance, three names - to make up from 1, to 21, to which you now <sup>allude</sup> ~~allude~~, please refer to my letter of the 13 of April 1872, cheque 499, for David Gitch, and to my letter of 16, of July 1872, cheque \$105, for Wm and John Bates. . . In reply to your (3.) in 1872, please find per list, from \$22, to 29, it should be from 22, to 30, 22, Wm Lottridge, 26, April 1873, cheque \$107. -  
 23, Wm Bruce Deane, do, do. -  
 24, Sam Mc Gwynne, 19, May 1873, cheque \$27. -  
 25, Benjamin Golds, do, do. -  
 26, David Gitch, do, do. -  
 27, Wm Perkins, 23, June 1873. - cheque 23, June 1873. -  
 28, Charles Abraham, 21, August 1873. - cheque 155. -  
 29, John Connor, 1, September 1873. - cheque \$162,  
 30, Richard Laaffe - 19, September 1873, cheque 192. -

In your \$4, in 1874. - please find, per list, from 51, to 60, as follows:

51, John Birse, 20, January 1874, cheque \$93. - -  
 52, John Marnard, do, do. -  
 53, Wm Rose, - do, do. -  
 54, Wm Gage, 9, March 1874, cheque \$140. -  
 55, John Bates, 23, March 1874, cheque \$299. -  
 56, Wm Lottridge, do, do, -  
 57, John Connor, - 8, July 1874, cheque \$93. -  
 58, David Lyson, - do, do. -  
 59, Sam Lottridge 6, April 1875, do 183. -  
 60, Richard Laaffe - 17, May 1875, cheque \$21. -

Then please find, that from 61, to 71, - comprising eleven names, were all accounted for, subsequently, per letter 27, March 1876, cheque \$178, for five, per letter 1<sup>st</sup> of April 1876, cheque \$182, for one, and per letter 25, April 1876, cheque \$204, for the remaining five, in all eleven names, thus accounting to you as I hope satisfactorily. -



for all the names you appear to be astray for,  
and with which I furnished you per my list  
of the 19, of ~~april~~ last. . . .

In reply to the list, and return under the  
name of W. Staples & others - as between the  
department and myself, your views of the case  
is to me all sufficient, but the twenty three  
names, as they appear in my letter to you of the  
27, of November 1873, - cheque No. 36 - if so  
published, and circulated by Mr. Maine would  
have been better. . . .

I hope the foregoing will satisfactorily  
explain how the discrepancies occurred. . . .

With much respect,

I am, &c.,

Hon. Ministers,

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

John W. Kent  
N. O.

Sir,

19. May 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith the copy of another letter, I have just received from Mr J. H. Stallock of Meaford, with reference to the illegal fishing carried on for White fish and Salmon Trout in the waters of the Georgian bay, - during the close season for these fish last November, in contravention of the Fisheries Act. - - -

As this letter presents a new complexion in these several cases, I beg most respectfully to recommend that the cases commenced already before Mr Jos: S. Miller, and myself, be again resumed, and disposed of. - - -

There appears to be one thing certain, and that is, this thing of evading the law by granting permits to fish during close season - buying White fish and Salmon Trout and selling them and delivering them to the buyers during the close season - but only paying for them after close season was ended, is so apparent as a very sharp act, resorted to solely as to evade the law, that I can no longer hesitate to lay these cases again before you, and I recommend that you will be pleased to order these several cases to be finally disposed of. - - - Mr J. H. Stallock is the owner of a tug boat, a fisherman - continually during the fishing season, employed by the Meaford fishermen tugging in and out their fishing boats, fish, and gill nets to and from the fishing grounds. - - -

In any case the result will hereafter have a good and beneficial effect. -

This man's complaint should have every attention paid to it. - I Have &c.



Sir

19, May 1876. —

I have the honor to send you Bank  
Cheque No: 27, — for the sum of Thirty five dol-  
lars. — — —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
as follows;

1. M<sup>rs</sup> David Ward, and Patrick Gray — bal<sup>ce</sup>  
in full for this current season of the Fisheries  
on the Toronto Island. —  $\$30.00$

2. Thomas Joyce — for seine hauling ground,  
in B. bay — on B. beach — spring fishing  
same as last season. — on acct.  $\$5.00$   
 $\$35.00$

I have already received M<sup>rs</sup> Ward, and  
Joyce license countersigned and delivered it.  
Please send me Joyce's license. —

With due respect

I have &c.

John W. Kerr  
Y.O.

M<sup>rs</sup> David Ward

Minister, H. H.

Ottawa,

Sir,

19. May 1876.

I have the honor to report for your information that on the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, Robert McCordle of this City was charged by me with fishing for, catching and killing pike in the waters of B. Bay with gill nets, without a license, in contravention of the Fisheries Act. This was on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May: he pleaded guilty, and was fined £6, and costs, or 20 days in Jail.

John Hennings, who fished with him and Ike Blows, and Thomas X, all of whom were likewise fined - put me in possession of all the facts, and proved them against all the offenders. - With due respect,

I Have &amp;c.

Hon. Ministers,  
H. H. H.John W. Kerr  
S.O.

P.S. Frank Mackelcan Esq<sup>r</sup> Barrister, L.C., appeared, and prosecuted. -

J.W. Kerr  
S.O.



Sir:

19, May 1876. -

I have the honor to report that Isaac Blows of this City was joined by James Cahill Esq<sup>r</sup> J.P. #12, and both, for fishing for, catching, and killing pike in Os. bay - with gill nets, without a license in Contention of the Fisheries Act. -

The offence was committed on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May - John Steenings proved that Blows, McCarroll, and he, set out the gill nets; Case and Bradt seized and delivered up to me. - - -

John Steenings proved that after Case and Bradt, went away with the gill nets they seized he and Blows fished up another gill net, and pike in it, and that Blows, took the net, and pike home to his House. The Case tried on 17<sup>th</sup> instant. - -

With due Respect

I Have &c

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr

D.O.

V. S. Mr. MacKilcan - Prosecuted

in this Case.

J. W.

J. W. Kerr

D.O.

Sir,

19 May 1896.

I have the honor, to report, that on Saturday last, the 13, instant, Thomas X, of this City was fined 12, and costs, - for fishing for, catching and killing pike with gill nets in the waters of B. bay without a license, in contravention of the Fisheries Act.

John Hennings, Startman Springstead, Sarah Springstead, Christopher Case, Robert Little, and John Bratt - proved the case. - - -

Chris: Case, and Bratt, seized about 400 yards of pike gill net, and delivered the same up to me, they found set in B. bay on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May. -

Thomas X had Counsel employed - but J<sup>r</sup> MacKelcan Esq<sup>r</sup> L. C. with the witnesses produced was too clear; I don't think there will be any appeal from the Magistrate's Conviction. - With due respect,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr

Hon: Minister.

H.

H.

H.

J. W.



Ser.

19. May 1876.

I have the honor to report for your information  
 that John Stennings of this City, was fined  
 \$12. and costs, on the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, by James Cahill  
 Esq. J. P. for fishing for, catching, and killing  
 pike, without a license from the department  
 of Marine and Fisheries, in contravention of  
 the Fisheries Act, in B. Bay, on the 5<sup>th</sup> of  
 May, - at Carrolls Point, and B. Heights,  
 John Stennings - pleaded guilty. - - -

As this man has aided and abetted  
 me so as to secure the conviction of Croft  
 Blows and McArdle - besides giving

me some pike gill  
 nets. Will you be pleased to allow  
 his fine and costs to remain in abeyance.  
 I found upwards of 100 yards of pike gill  
 net myself in his possession. -

I recommend John Stennings case, for  
 your favorable consideration. - - He will  
 never, I am sure offend or break the  
 Fisheries Act again.

With due respect

I have the

Hon Minister

& & &

John W. Kent

J. O.

Sir.

19. May 1876. —

Referring to these several cases of contraventions of the Fisheries Act, in B. bay - reported herewith. — — —

In order to make a clean sweep, and the cases complete, I was obliged to search, and had searched the houses of Tom X, Ike Blows, Robert McCardle, and John Stenning, and Sam Blows, by the power vested in me and James Cahill Esq. J. P. - under sub section 2, of section 18. of the Fisheries Act. — — —

In Tom X's house, with whom Sam Blows, lives, as son-in-law, 300 yards of pike gill net recently fished up (being wet and heavy) and 9 pike were found. — — —

In Ike Blows house, about 50 yards of pike gill net was found - Dan McFoyne, examined this net, said it was his, it was stolen from him. — but he positively declined swearing to it. — —

I found with John Stennings, about 100 yards of gill net, — this has since turned out to be Tom X's. — Then there was about 120 yards of new pike gill net given by Ben Golds - fisherman on B. beach, to Robert McCardle, he Golds in return was to get the fish caught at 12. each, this piece of gill net, I am up to the present time unable to find.

Then I grappled on the night of the 9<sup>th</sup> of May, in B. bay - where this illegal fishing was being carried on, and found about 300 yards of pike gill nets set there myself. —

Thus you have all the particulars.

With Much Respect,

I am Sir,

Hon. Minister.

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

John W. Kent

J. W.



## Notice to B. Bay Fishermen.

The special orders issued by the Fisheries department, Ottawa, dated 15, March 1876, respecting four inches mesh extension measure being the only and legal size mesh for all White fish seines; - I am now to apprise you, that no other seines of any kind whatever can be fished on any of the White fish fishing grounds in Lake Ontario, on B. Bay, until after the White fish run is over, for this year; and only then under a special license, the same as that issued for last season. ---

As it is necessary, that I should examine and inspect all White fish seines, before any licenses are granted for this season: - The fishermen will have to notify me as soon as they overhauled, prepared and fitted up their White fish seines, for the season, so that I may at once inspect them. --- I cannot recommend a license to issue, unless the same are as the law directs they should be; Besides all back rents of licenses from the past & previous years, must be first paid up. ---

All persons building on the Fisheries Reserve without leave from the Department of Marine, and Fisheries will be prosecuted for trespass. -

As the Fisheries Reserves are only intended for licensed fishermen. - The seine hauling grounds in B. Bay, on B. Bay, cannot be fished, nor hauled on after the 31<sup>st</sup> day of May. - Will the fishermen, and all other concerned be pleased to govern themselves accordingly.

My Order,

Hamilton Ont.

John W. Dyer,

20, May 1876. -

D. O.

My dear Mr Blade. —

I am in receipt of your application of the 23<sup>rd</sup> instant, for a license to fish in Lake Ontario in front of your property. —

In reply, I beg to assure you that I will apply to the department of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa, recommend and obtain for you the required license on receipt of five dollars. — In the mean time until I receive for you the license, you can avail yourself of the privilege of fishing. — With kind regards. —

Thomas Blade Esq.  
Oakville. —  
Post Office.

Yrs Sincerely,

John W. Kent  
J. O.  
26, May 1876.

My dear Long. —

I have to apologize for not answering your letter sooner. — The money allowed for Duff's Creek was all paid before I got your letter. I will not forget you next November.

Can you tell me who it is, that is spearing very often in the Creek with light jacks, and what kind of fish are so speared. — and oblige

Wm. Long.  
H. Station Master.  
Duff's Creek.

Yrs. truly  
John W. Kent  
J. O.

29. May 1876.



Sir,

29. May 1876. -

I regret to have to report, for your information, that some time during Thursday night the 18<sup>th</sup>, day of May instant, "my boat", the boat with which the department were pleased to furnish me, for the active discharge of my duty in the waters of B. bay, - with two pair of oars, &c. and a paddle, was taken from Mr. Wulfege's inlet, within ten yards, of his dwelling house, by some persons unknown at present to me. - Suspicion points to Thomas & Isaac Blows, whom I had recently fined, for Contraventions of the Fisheries Act, in B. bay, as already reported to you. -


Mr. Wulfege, heard the noise, and could have supplanted their design, had he known what was up. - - - What aggravates the crime is! that I did not use my own boat at all, but Mr. Henry Sammens when I made the seizures of the pike gill nets of these persons already reported by me to you. - -

I shall have to purchase another boat, and build a boat house in which I can securely keep and lock her up in future. - -

My boat if taken by the persons referred to, will have been sunk, some where in Burlington bay. -

With due respect,

I remain &c.

John W. H.   
J. W. H.

Hon. Minister

H. H. H.  
O. H. H.

Sir,

29. May 1876.

I have the honor to apply to you for White fish seine hauling licenses, in Lake Ontario, on B. Beach, during this current season, and for the undermentioned fishermen, residents there. ---

Station, No. 2.	Motimes Corey.	License fee.	10.00.
" 5.	Benjn Golds.	do.	10.00.
" 7.	David Fitch.	do.	10.00.
" 8.	Wm Perkins.	do.	10.00.
" 9.	John Laaffe.	do.	10.00.
" 11.	Harold Gurne	12 5 <sup>0</sup> on a fee do.	10.00.
" 12.	J. H. Corey.		10.00.

These licenses will require to be filled up as follows: - The seine hauling fishery station, lying and situated on B. Beach, in Lake Ontario, in the township of Sault Ste. Marie, and County of Wentworth, as per plan and survey made by John Buchanan, Deputy Provincial Land Surveyor, bearing date the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April 1859.

"In order to protect the young white fish, no seine, shall be set or fished under any pretence on this seine hauling ground?"

I may add there is no money at present from these applicants, it will however, be forthcoming after a little time.

In the mean time, I recommend the licenses may be issued at once by you.

With due respect,

I am Sir,

Yours faithfully,

J. O. -

John Minister,

Sir,

Officer



My dear Sir, -

With reference to the Complaint lodged against Messrs. Munson, and McGellan - Contractors, rebuilding and dredging out the Harbour at Frenchman's Bay - "for depositing stones, ballast, and material dredged therefrom, on your Seine hauling ground, thereby injuring, and damaging the same" -

If you wish to prosecute under your license you can do so, under Section 14, of the Fisheries Act. - - -

The penalty for any such offence is a fine not exceeding \$100, or imprisonment for not more than two months. - - -

Will you be pleased to call and see the person, or persons, who are actually carrying on the work, and no doubt, when you reason with them, and explain what the law is, they will at once remove the stuff so far away, that it will not damage or injure your fishing grounds any more. -

Please send me your license fee at once. - - If any person except you and Joe Black fishes on the grounds at the bay, - please let me hear it from you forthwith. - - -

I heard Becker, was going to fish.  
With kind regards, -

Wm Thomas Blanchfield.

Fisherman -

Frenchman's Bay.

Durham's - N. B.

John W. Kerr -  
F. O.

29. May 1876.

Sir,

29. May 1876. -

I have the honor to apply to you, for white fish  
Seine hauling license, for Mr. Thomas Mansfield, for  
this current season, for to fish at Greuchman's bay,  
in Lake Ontario; thus:

"Commencing at the east pier, of  
the Harbour at Greuchman's bay - thence east to the  
poplar trees, say about  $3\frac{1}{4}$  <sup>the</sup> of a mile in distance  
between the given points, and to extend outwards into  
the waters of the Lake three miles, the same being  
in the township of Pickering."

"In order to protect the young white fish,  
no herring seine shall be set or fished under  
any pretence on this seine hauling ground."

The license fee is to be ten dollars,  
which I will very soon get and forward  
to you; I recommend you to grant this license,  
and please send it to me at once. -

With due respect,

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

Hon: Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa



Sir,

29. May 1876. -

I have the honor to apply to you for a white fish - seine hauling license - for Mr Joseph Black, to fish this season in Lake Ontario, between Petticoat Creek, and the west pier of the Starboard at Frenchman's Bay, - in the township of Pickering. - "The distance between the given points is about one mile, and to extend from the beach into the waters of the Lake three miles?" -

"In order to protect the young white fish, no herring seine shall be set or fished under any pretence in this seine hauling ground" -

I recommend the license to be granted for ten dollars; and please send it to me at once. - I will shortly get the money, and send it to you. - Times are very hard. -

With due respect,

I Have &amp;c

Hon. Minister,

O. H. H.

O. H.

John P. Kerr,

S. O.

X

Monday, 29. May 1876. -

At Toronto, and the Island - arranged with W. Ward, about the new boat. went across with him - came up to Mr. J. J. - went out at 8. A. M. came in at 3. P. M. Mile 48. Riff fare 1.20. - Boat hire 50¢, dinner, tea, and bed, 75. =

JL

2.45

Sir,

1<sup>st</sup> June 1876.

I have the honor to send you Bank cheques No: 42, for the sum of thirty four dollars, and  $\frac{25}{100}$  cents.

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, as follows; for this current season; -

No: 1, James Cantwell, a license for white fish seine hauling - at the four mile Creek, in Lake Ontario at Niagara - to be the same as last year. ---	10.00.
" 2, Abram St. John, do. do. do. no license required. ---	10.00.
" 3, John Bolton, do. do. do. at the two mile Creek, in ditto, the same as last year. ---	10.00.
" 4, Samuel Dynes, for pike gill net license in B. bay, ending 10 <sup>th</sup> May last, no license required. ---	2.00.
" 5, Albert Harris, & boy - in full. do, ---	2.25.
Total, \$ 34.25	

With due respect,

I remain &c.

Yours Minister,  
H. H. H.

John W. Kerr  
J.O.

#

Tuesday, 30, May 1876.

At the Island - across to the City, - thence on B<sup>a</sup> Steamer City of Toronto, to Niagara, and the four mile Creek. - James Cantwell, Abram St. John, and John Bolton - paid me 10<sup>#</sup> dollars each, for seine hauling ground license - went out at 6. a. m. came in at 4. p. m. Miles 40. Boat 50<sup>#</sup>, Steamer 1<sup>#</sup>, Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed \$ 1.00<sup>#</sup> See report of 1<sup>st</sup> of June. -

\*. Wednesday. 31. May 1876. -

At Niagara - and Toronto Island, went out 10. a.m. came in at 1. at night was around the Island. - Miles 40. Steamed the Southern Bell, and Bouquet. -  
 gave 1<sup>¢</sup>. - Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed 1<sup>¢</sup>.

\*. Thursday. 1. June 1876. - -

At Toronto and home - brought the New boat across. - paid 1<sup>¢</sup> to have her brought up to Hamilton - on the Corsican steam boat - 50<sup>¢</sup>  
 to have dinner, and entry - thence back to Hamilton. - out on the bay grappling - heard that Ben. Golds - had large gilled pike in market on Tuesday last. - caught as is suspected by Thomas X, and Joe Yates, went out at 6. a.m. came in at 7. p.m. Miles 60. Breakfast 25<sup>¢</sup>, My fare 1.20, Horse and Wagon 1.50. C. J. Ken. with me - and so was John Stenning -

22.95 45



Rev.

1. June 1876.

I have the honor to apply to you for a boat license to fish - White gill nets - of the legal size of 5" inches, extension measure, in Lake Ontario between the two mile creek, and the six mile Ck. for this current year; the same being in Niagara township; N.Y.

- |                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Mr James Cantwell, One boat     | \$ 5.00. |
| 2. Mr John Bolton do.              | 5.00.    |
| 3. Mr Charles and Alfred Ball, do. | 5.00.    |
| 4. Mr Shears do.                   | 5.00.    |

The money in these cases will be forthcoming after a little time.

5. Also - boat license for Alex Keith of Niagara, \$ 5.

6. And for Mr Thomas Elliott, a seine hauling license at Niagara the same as last year.

With due respect.

I Have the

Hon. Minister

John W. Hall  
J.W.

My dear Sir. —

Yours of the 31<sup>st</sup> ultimo, received  
respecting the Ward, building a House, on Toronto  
Island. —

The County Council, of which I am a  
Member, meet here to-day — otherwise I would  
come down and see you at once on this  
subject. — But when the Council gets through  
I will do so, and bring with me all the  
papers from the Fisheries Department, Ottawa  
respecting the House referred to, which I hope  
will prove to you and the Corporation of Tor-  
onto satisfactory. With much Respect.

Yours Obedient Servant,

John W. Kerr

D. O.

5. June 1876.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

John Menzies Robinson.

H.

H.

H.

Toronto. —

Sir,

9. June 1870.

In obedience to your instructions I have now the honor to send you the amount required to be paid for procuring a new boat, &c, to replace the boat and oars, &c, stolen and I believe maliciously destroyed, as already reported to you on the 29 of May last.

1. One good serviceable boat, 19 ft long. —	50.00
2. Mast and sail. —	5 00
3. Three pairs of oars 1.30 <sup>00</sup> per pair.	3 90
1012 ft of lumber for boat house	11 00
5. Tearing the same	0 00
6. Building Boat House, 20' x 8' x 6', including done in nail, lock and key, and flooring	12 30
7. Three pairs of wrought iron row locks —	1 50
Total \$ 82.40	

Please send me cheque for this amount.

I have procured everything the boat house is also ready — Yrnsd — and with due respect,  
I remain &c

Yrnsd.

John W. Kerr

P.S.



Sir,

3. June 1876.

I have the honor to report you your information that it has just been communicated to me, by John Beck of Hamilton, Esq. that Mr. Benjamin Lyne, of Wellington, who purchased that part of the Chief Brant farm, situated on B. Beach, between the old Outlet and the main land, is making preparation for to cut a Canal or entrance from the Brant Pond, B. Bay across the main road, and highway, or public beach into Lake Ontario, so as to make the same navigable for a pleasure steamer, running this season from Hamilton to the Brant House.

I deem it my duty to apprise you of this, knowing as I believe I do, that the Fisheries department, and Board of Works, and Fort Ottawa, have always had a careful eye over the long beach, between B. Bay and Lake Ontario, known as B. Beach, - To cut this proposed Canal by stealth, during night, as I understand is the intention may damage navigation and entail expense on the Fort amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars, if not immediately seen to.

I strongly recommend that you will at once bring this matter before the proper department, so as to put a stop to such egregious folly.

With much respect,

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Beck

Hon. Minister

Friday 2. June 1876. -

On B. beach; David Gitch - wanted leave for to catch Steering - which privilege I denied him - when he enquired how it was Jack Saaffe could catch bait, and not him. - told Jack all about it and warned him. - -

Got a large wh. fish from Alex Rolia - went out at 3. p. m. came in at 9. p. m. - Miles 20. 4. 8 W<sub>h</sub>  
 2.50 - C. J. Kerr with me. - - -

Saturday. 3. June 1876. .

Ben: Golds. - complained to me of Jonathan Corey - fishing on his seine hauling ground. - ~~and~~ ~~wanted~~ me to warn him off - I told him it was his own business - and for him to attend to it. - I also spoke to Ben. and remonstrated with him for giving gill nets to Bob McCadle to fish at the Straights - he of course denied it - with oath. the best proof of his guilt - as Ben: himself fished on a certain Saturday night - and Tom & took him home to his house on Sunday morning. - Sam Corey - met Ben: near the wharf - Hamilton - with box of nets, in his possession. - - -

I saw what I reported about Ben: Egar - first from Captain Hardbottle, - then from Stuart and Porter. - - -

Sunday. 4. June 1876.

Go see Ben: Clark's house torn down by Charles Spray: Alex Gray: Robert Gray: - Isaac Tweedle: - Archibald Tweedle: James Tweedle: - Mep<sup>3</sup> book, and Stuart - Truckmen - saw the remains of the house pulled down - the beach is an open beach - formed in front of Stony Creek pond, and between the pond and the lake. - ~~thence by~~ ~~the~~ ~~canal~~ - enquired about Ben: Egar's proceedings - Tom Joyce - and old Mr. Gordon.

gave me particulars - a joint stock company is being formed to build this Canal - as reported by me - began saying as he owns the land he can do as he pleases with it. went out at 8.30. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. - Miles 32. \$4.00. 3.00. & Kerr with me. -

Notice to gill net fishermen, on No. Beach.

It having been reported to me, that gill net fishermen are at present fishing their gill nets in Lake Ontario, adjacent to No. Beach; Sub-section 2 of Section 9. of the Fish Act; states: "Gill nets shall not be set within two miles of any fishing ground."

Hamilton Ont

By Order.

15. June 1876.

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

Mailed Joe Black's license - to Mr Joseph Moon - Port Union - and Thomas Mansfield to himself, at Frenchman's bay. Dunkerton P.A.  
Paid Postages 50.

-X-

Thursday. - 8<sup>th</sup> June 1876.

On No. Beach - as far down as Charles Gray's - stopped there until John Connor hauled in - thence up as far as Jack Saaffes Senr's hauling ground went out at 3.30. p.m. came in at 12.30. mid-night - \$4.00 <sup>at</sup> 2.50. Y. Kerr, with me Miles 30.



Alton, Co: of Peel.  
 12. June 1876.  
 J. Mac Lachlan,  
 Dear Sir,

I write you to see if any thing can be done to protect the fish in these streams, as they are being completely destroyed by saw dust, and other material, and the use of nets in fishing. -

If there is no one to look after it appointed for this locality, it is time they were. Mr. Waddington, was at one time, but now resides in Mississauga. -

Awaiting your reply at your earliest convenience.

I remain yours Respectfully.  
 J. D. Carter.

Sir.

14. June 1876.

I have the honor to apply to you, for permission to proceed to Alton, and enquire into, and prosecute persons for violating the fishing Act, as per Complaint contained in the annexed letter. -

Alton, is a village about 40 miles north of Toronto, near the head waters and trout streams of the Credit. -

The expense will be about \$20, and when there I can procure some speckled trout, for Mr. Sam Wilmet, and some for my own depleted stream, besides prosecute all ill owners, and other persons - for Contamination of the fishing Act. -

Respectfully Submitted.

I Have &c.

John Wilmet

Hon: Minister

& & &

Alton

Sir,

15. June 1876.

I have the honor to state for your information that the lease made to the late Peter Grant, of fishing station No: 12, in Lake Ontario, on N. beach, together with the land (4 acres) attached thereto, being for a term of 9 years, at 20 dollars per year, having expired; until arrears of rent is paid up, and a renewal license is applied for, and obtained from the department of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa, by you, for this fishing station, no more fishing of any kind will be permitted on fishing station No: 12 in Lake Ontario, on N. beach; I have notified Mr Benjamin Golds, accordingly.

Mr Thomas Martin Yrs. Respectfully.

B. B. C. C.

John W. Kent

210.

Saturday, 10. June 1876. -

Mr C. C. C. getting a survey made of Charles Gray's lot - No. 12. Mr. C. C. C. went first to City of Hamilton and took Frank with him. Came out at 5. 11. 30, came in at 6. 11. 30. Home by Hamilton, attended to for gas; called on Mr. C. C. C. and gave evidence. Saw Mr. C. C. C. Hamilton, and Mr. C. C. C. Miles about 30 miles. 644 W. 3.00.

Sir,

15. June 1876.

I have the honor to state for your information that the lease made to the late Peter Grant, of fishing station No. 12, in Lake Ontario, N. B. Sch, together with the lands, (4 acres) attached thereto, being for a term of 9 years, at 20<sup>th</sup> dollars, per year, having expired; until arrears of rent is paid up and a renewal license is applied for, and obtained from the Department of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa. For this fishing station, no more fishing of any kind will be permitted on fishing station No. 12 in Lake Ontario, on N. B. Sch - please govern yourself accordingly. -

Y<sup>rs</sup> Respectfully  
John W. Kerr  
D.O.

Mr Benjn. Goulds,  
Fishermen -  
Cm. Beach.

Wednesday 14, June 1876.

On N. B. Sch, heard that Ben. Goulds - had been fishing for, and catching herring, and on Monday morning had taken a Wagon load across toward Wellington Square, - heard he had them on the ice in his ice house a large quantity of herring, - Sam. Carey, Jas. Pickett, John McCauley, and a boy from Hamilton has been fishing for him. - Heard Ben. told them to fish away - he would bear them harmless through it all, went out at 4.30. Came in at 12, M.K. - Miles 24. \$4.12 2.50. Y. Kerr, with me. - Ben. hauled on lot No. 12. and caught white fish (7) Dan McCauley tore his seine - gave out license.



14, June 1876.

My dear Sir.

Will you be pleased to find by Mail today, your Series hauling licenses for yourself, Jas: Cantwell, John Bolton, and Abram St. John, -

Please deliver the (3) latter, for they have paid me, retain your own. - - -

Then you will please find most licenses for Charles and Alfred Hall \$5, John Bolton \$5, James Cantwell, \$5, Alex: Keith \$5, and Mr Shears \$5, in all \$25. dollars. - - -

As you collect \$5, from each person, then hand over the license to the person for whom the same is intended, payments must be made to you at once. - - Keep the money until I come down. Have you been all getting a plentiful supply of White fish. - -

Please write, give my kind regards to all, and believe me,

Yours,  
Thomas Elliott  
Niagara.

Sincerely Yours.  
John W. Kent  
J. S.

Sir,

10. June 1896.

I have the honor to send you Bank Cheque \$10.60, for the sum of Ten dollars.

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as follows; for this current year: viz.

1. Mr Thomas Slade - township of Toronto. - For a license to fish a White fish seine in Lake Ontario; Commencing at the town line, and running east in front of Mr Slades farm, on to the east side of the same, and being all in the township of Toronto. - - - \$5.00

2. - The Mrs W. Annie May. - for a license to fish a White fish seine in Lake Ontario, between Port Union, and the west pier of the Harbour, at Frenchman's Bay, - being in the township of Pickering. - - - 5.00

Total, \$10.00.

Will you be pleased to send me licenses, at your convenience - and please insert the Sterring seine clause in each license. -

With due respect,

I have the honor

John W. Kent  
D.O.

The Hon Secy

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

My dear Sir,

Will you be so good as to send me your license fee at once; you have been complained of, for fishing gill nets, and a seine without a license; do this at once, and I will get your license for you. -

Yrs Truly,

John W. Kerr

D. O.

16. June 1876.

Mr John Broadfoot,  
Whitby P.O.

My dear Sir,

Your application received, please send me your dollars, and I will apply for, and get you a license at once from the fisheries department.

With kind regards,

Yrs Truly,

John W. Kerr

D. O.

16. June 1876.

Isaac Durham Esq  
Grimsby P.O.

\* See 34. page.

Submitted to the Hon. The Minister, and strongly recommended for his meritorious consideration by

16. June 1876

John W. Kerr

D. O.



Sir,

16. June 1876.

I have the honor to report, that on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of May 1875, I sent you Bank cheque No. 36, for the sum of five dollars. —

And I then applied to you for a license for Mr Rosana Bath, and James Williams, in Lake Ontario, at Port Dalhousie. —

For some cause you deferred giving the license, — and you wrote me to this effect. —

Peter Bath — the husband of Mrs Bath, who was unfortunate, and sent to the Central Prison — Toronto — is now home at Port Dalhousie and wants to commence fishing again, as per the Station Master letter — of St. Catharines, Mr John McPhail. —

I recommend this man's application to your merciful Consideration, for a license <sup>and let the five dollars, above referred to now apply.</sup> ~~this current year~~ <sup>same as last year</sup> With due respect,

I Stave F. C.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.John W. Kerr  
J. W.

Officer,

G. W. Kerr Freight Department,  
St. Catharines, June 13. 1876.

Fishing Inspector,  
Hamilton.

My dear Sir,

Now Peter Bath

is just now here and tells me that he must get privileged to commence fishing as usual otherwise he and his family will starve, He wants you to send him his license, or if you can spare the time come down to see him, — He begs, and do something for the poor fellow at your earliest convenience, obliging Yours Very Truly, John McPhail,

P. S. Stamp enclosed for an early reply

X

13. June 1876. —

I am in receipt of a copy of Circular dated 12. May last, and in reply I beg most respectfully to state that I believe it is not necessary to apply the provisions contained in this Circular to any part of the Niagara River — nor to any part of my division. — — —

In the Niagara River, say the town of Niagara<sup>22</sup> the angling by Americans is carried on altogether, in front of the American fort and in American waters — and even there British subjects who supply the Boats and the Boat, catch more fish, by angling, those which they dispose of, to American anglers, who employ them, at remunerative prices, than the Americans do themselves. — And I assure you, that since my appointment as your Overseer on those frontier waters, no waste nor loss has ever occurred to the fish generally hals, and herring, angled on such occasions. — During my visit to the department, at Ottawa, 24. day of April 1875, the Commissioner of Fisheries and I fully discussed this matter — when I showed and convinced him — that our licensed fishermen at Niagara, profitably fished their gill nets for herring, white fish, hals, pickled and perch, nearly all the year round — “legal seasons” in American waters, and they are not interred with by the American authorities; Hence, why? I deem it my duty to report to you all this; — You are pleased to say: “I am desired by the Minister to instruct you that the practice of issuing “Permits” which has been for some time in use should be continued on the following considerations. — — —

1<sup>st</sup>. Angling, solely for pleasure, and recreated permits. — —

In answer to this, I may remark, that I recommended permits to be given last year, free gratis, as was just fixed by the department to American anglers, for to angle on the Canada side of the Niagara River, at Fort Erie, and I now and still adhere to this, because the profitable advantages, Canadian licensed fishermen have always derived and enjoyed by fishing their gill nets in American Waters, Lake Ontario at Niagara, is to them so remunerative. . . . The licensed fishermen at Fort Erie, and Niagara, whom I have consulted concur in this, least wise - the advantages which they at present enjoy should be frittered away from them. . . .

2<sup>d</sup> - Permits for this privilege to be issued to British Subjects free of charge; but a payment of \$1, for each permit granted to a foreigner, is to be exacted on delivery. . . .

In reply to this clause, I will be candid in stating to you, that so far as charging \$1, to American subjects, who come across from Buffalo to Fort Erie, angle for, and catch a few little perch, ("fish not recognized by law") on the licensed fishing grounds, in the Niagara River, - for which a rental of \$50, annually is paid; If the licensees, who pay such a handsome rent, and who sell their seine caught fish in the City of Buffalo, to Americans or foreigners, if they are so disposed; may they not allow these foreigners, with whom they have daily intercourse, as well as with Canadians, to fish in the Niagara River in their licensed waters for perch. . . . It does appear to me that this clause was never intended, and should not be applied to the Niagara River; it is however well adapted for inland waters, and out of the way places where no licenses are issued, where



speckled trout, bass, and muskies are caught by angling, and other (illegal) contrivances, not to be lost, but for the American markets, - because speckled trout so caught, are readily disposed of, at 50¢ per pound, I give you this common sense view of the matter. - - - In places where no license fees, are ever paid, where people camp out, where week days and Sundays are all alike, and where the laws of our Country, are never observed, nor respected: In such places license fees for angling to foreigners - should be \$20, instead of \$1. - - -

I speak from the personal knowledge, I acquired, by your deputing me to visit on several occasions, the Georgian Bay Country, where I examined into, and reported contravention of the Fisheries Act. Committed previous to such enquiries being made, under your personal instructions to me. - - -

It is up in the back inland streams, lakes, and rivulets, which this law so long neglected should be firmly enforced: I feel a pride in finding it is to be so enforced now!

But on the Niagara River things being just as I say; I cannot without careful and due consideration come to the conclusion of changing matter where every thing, is profitable at present to our licensed fishermen. As Hargreaves without having first a personal interview, with Mr. Whitehead, our Commissioner on subject. - - -

These are my views and I hope they will be received as such.

same frank open manner, that I have given them. - - With due respect, -

Yours, Minister, I have &c,  
H. H. H. John W. Kerr  
Ottawa, D. C.

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 15. just received, Mr. Thomas Wade has paid me five dollars, and I have sent to the department for his license. ---

With reference to Mr. Smith claiming #1. per week from Fred<sup>l</sup> Shaper - for fishing on the beach in front of his farm - tell Fred<sup>l</sup> he need not pay it, as the beach is reserved for fishing and navigation purposes, and Mr. Smith cannot meddle with him. -

You asked me in a former letter, if Fred. Shaper could fish on Saturday nights - please read for him, sub section 14, of section 13 - page 9, of the fisheries Act, and tell him to govern himself accordingly. ---

Some person stole or destroyed my boat, have you seen or heard any thing of a stray boat? - Is any person fishing gill nets, or any person fishing at Mimico. - please keep a look out for me, and believe me. -

Yrs Truly,

Mr Jas. Wilson.  
P<sup>y</sup> credit.

John W. Kerr,  
Fishery Commissioner,  
Hamilton, - Onto.

N.B.,

17. June 1876.

How does Fred<sup>l</sup> Shaper, get on the Beach if in his boat, does he just get there in his boat, haul and go off again, answers.

J. W. Kerr

Sir,

18. June 1876. -

I have the honor to send you the copy of another letter, I have just received from Mr. J. M. Stallock, of Meaford, following up still his former - Complaints made against Mr. A. Milne, and son, and James Milne, fish dealers, and J. Fisherman, and others, who were guilty of contraventions of the Fisheries Act, during the close season; "In catching, buying, and selling White fish and Salmon Trout, during the month of November last at Meaford, and in the waters of the Georgian Bay?" -

I hope you will not consider, that I am teasing you on this subject, I merely send this letter, as I have already sent you his other letters, simply because your instruction to me was to do so, and for no other purpose. -

With due respect,

Hon. Minister,

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr

Ottawa

J.W.K.

Here follows the letter.

J. W. Kerr



Sunday 18, June 1876.

At Suspension Bridge, Queenston Heights, and Niagara, found Charles Macie, Dan Macdonald, and John Ryan - at John Macdonald's upper machine. - the machine was down - and nine white balls were in the fish box alive! - some of them - went out at 9, A. M. came in at 4, P. M. - Miles 59. Ry fare 1.50 dinner tea and beer  $\frac{1}{5}$  Horse & buggy 3.00. -  $\frac{1}{5}$  5.25

Monday 19, June 1876. -

At Niagara - Thomas Elliott paid me \$8, for himself & young Shears - paid me \$2. - Alfred Bales paid me \$5, and David DeRos paid me \$5 license fees for current year. - by appointment John Macdonald - met me at Railway Station Queenston - and is to send me - particularly about fishing on Sunday. - thence to Bridge and Hamilton. - had a long discussion with Niagara fishermen - and fishing - went out at 10, A. M. came in at 4.30, P. M. Miles 56. - Ry fare \$2.00 &  $\frac{1}{5}$  5.

Received my Salary - for quarter ending this 30. day of June - \$125. dollars on the 19. June 1876. - John W. ...

Sir,

20, June 1876.

I have the honor to send you Bank  
cheque No: 65, for the sum of Forty five dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
for this current year, as follows: viz: -

1. David Gitch, license for White fish seine to  
fish on lot No: 7, in Lake Ontario, on B. Bach, <sup>11th</sup> <sup>2</sup>  
the license has been received and delivered, 10.00
2. Dan McGurne, do, do, on lot  
No: 11, in Lake Ontario, on B. Bach on apt do, 5.00,
3. John Junsell, for license, to fish White  
fish gill nets between the gap, Toronto  
Island, and Port Union, in Lake Ontario  
for this current year, license required, 10.00,
4. Mr Thomas Elliott, for seine hauling  
ground, in the Niagara River, at E. E. =  
agreed, license already received and de-  
livered, - 0.00,
5. Charles and Alfred Ball, Boat License,  
for gill nets, between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and E. M. C.  
Creek, in Lake Ontario, license already  
received and delivered, at Niagara, 5.00
6. David Abbott, of E. M. C. Creek, license to  
fish a machine in the Niagara River,  
on station No: 3, at E. M. C. Creek,  
license required, (already del & D) 5.00
7. Mr Sheary, for license to fish fish-  
gill nets in Lake Ontario, at the  
Four Mile Creek, license already  
received and delivered at Niagara 2.00

With much respect,

20 June 1876

J. H. H.

Thursday, 22. June 1876. -

At Toronto Island. made enquiries into the Complaints made against fishermen - for building houses on the fishing reserve of One chain. - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 10. p.m., Miles 48. - Ry fare <sup>4</sup>1.20. Boat <sup>4</sup>\$50. dinner tea and beer <sup>4</sup>75. please see my report to the Hon. Ministers of 24. June, on next page.

Friday, 23. June 1876. -

At Toronto Island - the City Solicitor's office - with the help of David Ward, Pat. Gray, Wm. Ward, and James Burnan - saw Hon John Beverley Robinson and Mr. McWilliams, on the subject - thence home to the Mountain, went out at 7. a.m. came in at 3. p.m., Miles 48. Boat <sup>4</sup>25, Breakfast and dinner <sup>4</sup>\$50. Ry fare <sup>4</sup>1.20 - see letter 24. June for all the particulars. <sup>4</sup>2, 1.95

24 June 1876.

Thomas Blaine Esq. to Jas J. Wilcox Pt. Credit  
John Russell - to P. Gray - Toronto  
J. W. Ames Esq. - Port Union - to Joe Moor  
David Harris. Queenston - paid 4

#### BURLINGTON BAY FISHERY.

##### A MEETING OF ALL PARTIES

A resident in the vicinity of Burlington Bay and adjacent waters interested in the preservation of the said Fishery, will be held at John ANDERSON'S Fox and Hounds Temperance House, Burlington Heights, on THURSDAY, the 22nd of June, at two o'clock p.m. Thos. Bain Esq., M. P., and Dr. McMahon, M. P. P., are expected to be present. An invitation has also been extended to the Mayor of Hamilton and the Fishery Inspector, John W. Keir.

Hamilton, June 21st, 1876.

145-11\*

Sir,

24. June 1876.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on the 22, instant, whilst visiting the Island Fisheries Toronto Island, I was shown your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June to Messrs David Ward, and Patrick Gray - Toronto Island, licensees of the fisheries there; Also your letter addressed to Mr. James Hurman - Toronto Island, Toronto, respecting their building houses on the fishery reserve of one chain, made thereon." - I may here state to you candidly, that whoever made such a statement to you, has misrepresented facts, as no house or houses have been erected on the fishery reserve of one chain made thereon, but a very fine substantial house, rough cast, 36 ft long, 28 ft wide, and 20 feet high, containing seven rooms, in ornament to the Island, is just about being completed. It is getting the last touch at a cost of \$1500, by Mr. Wm. Ward, but this is just 1 chain, and so, is from the waters edge of Lake Ontario, on the west side of the Island, - so that you will please perceive, no offence, nor no invading, so far as the fishery reserve is concerned has been committed; Wm. Ward, is son to Mr. David Ward, and carries on his fishing, - Wm. Ward, is also a brave and courageous man, please refer to my letter to you of the 10<sup>th</sup> of

Mr. James Hurman, has put up a small house, about the same distance from the water edge as Mr. Wards house is, so that far as the fishery are concerned, no offence is at all committed on the fishery reserve of one chain made thereon.



And may be fairly set down as the ~~best~~ <sup>best</sup> representation made to you. --

Mr James Hurman, is not a fisherman on any part of Toronto Island - but he is a licensed fisherman, east of the gap, in Lake Ontario, in front of Ashbridges bay, and being a son of the Light House Keeper - on Toronto Island - he claims the consideration of the Fisheries department. - -

With respect to Mr. Patrick Gray, - erecting a  
House on the fishing reserve of one chain made thereon,  
this is also, "a myth", - There is however, a small  
house, the property of Mr. Patrick Gray. 26 ft. by 16 ft.  
this house formerly stood on the Light House reserve  
and there for 40. years, and was used while there  
as a dwelling house and for storing nets, and fish in  
of the fishermen. - The L. House Keeper - ordered  
his house off, his light house reserve, and Mr. Pat<sup>k</sup>  
Gray, had this house removed from there last fall,  
and brought down, to where it now stands, and re-  
paired it, and it is now on the City leased pro-  
perty, with only 10 ft. 4. inches of the west end in  
consequence of high water, being now on the fish-  
ery reserve, where by right, it ought, and should be,  
the balance of the house being on lot No. 2, as  
set forth on the plan and survey made by Charles  
Unwin, Deputy Provincial Land Surveyor - of which  
Mr. Patrick Gray, - holds a 21. years lease, dated 21<sup>st</sup>  
day of May 1870, - at \$50. per year, payable half yearly  
on the 1<sup>st</sup> days of January, and July - and on  
which the said lease, specifies Houses can and  
may be built thereon; I am quoting from this lease  
for your information. - I also saw the last receipt  
to Mr. Gray, for \$50, dated 12. October 1875. -  
I solicit your interference and protection for Messrs  
David Mearns, and Pat<sup>k</sup> Gray, in future from

petty annoyance by the Corporation of Toronto.  
 From the edge of the Lake water, on the west side  
 to this house - fish shanty, it is about 55 ft., and if  
 the water was low, as in former years, it would  
 be altogether on the City property, held under  
 lease by Mr Gray - and from the plank foot  
 walk, to the east end of the house referred to,  
 it is 22' feet, 6 inches; so that in any instance  
 Mr R. Gray's is a case, that some official of  
 the Corporation, has been attempting to grapple  
 at, without any just cause in the premises  
 whatever. --- And as for Mr David Wood, I  
 can't find that he has been guilty of anything.  
 For he has done nothing; you will find him  
 still in his old <sup>Fisherman's</sup> shanty, sober, civil and obliging,  
 just as he is, and ought to be. --- The lease, Mr  
 R. Gray - was witnessed by John Beverley Robinson, City  
 Solicitor, Geo. Baker, Boulton, and Andrew McLeod,  
 then Chamberlaine of the City, and the Seal of  
 the Corporation was placed to the lease by Saml.  
 B. Starnes, the then Mayor of Toronto, but  
 at present City Chamberlaine; so that you will  
 please further observe how futile the attempt  
 must be as made to you and against Mr David  
 Wood, and Patrick Gray. ---

That portion of the Island, lot No. 82, Mr  
 Gray - has a 2 years lease of, by the  
 Corporation of Toronto to build a plank walk  
 of 4 ft wide <sup>over</sup> for public accommodation to the  
 Citizens. --- Whilst the Corporation is in the  
 yearly receipt of \$50 for it, and another lot (No. 83)  
 so that it is not anything out of place  
 for me to say, Mr Gray, is entitled to much  
 consideration at the hands of the Toronto  
 Corporation, for his liberality. ---

Independent of all this, I might add - so is Mr. D. Ward, and both from their very long residence as fishermen on Toronto Island, the former being 28, years, and the latter 38 years. - -

I think fishermen so long in possession, should have a priority claim, - even as against or from the Corporation of Toronto. - - The same as the N. B. fishmen, now enjoy, of their respective holdings there, as against the City of Hamilton, - and even still, and I hope it is not too late, should from long possession, be placed independent of the Corporation of Toronto. - - -

On Friday morning last, at 10. A.M., I went with Messrs. D. Ward, Pat Gray, Wm. Ward and James Duncan, to see the Hon. John Beverley Robinson, Solicitor for the City of Toronto, Wm. Ward and James Duncan were advised to petition the Mayor and Corporation; so as if possible to right themselves in their attempt at house building. - - -

Messrs. David Ward, and Pat Gray, the sole licensees of the Toronto Island fisheries, have not so far as my humble judgement serves me done any thing, whatever to draw the attention of the Mayor and Corporation of Toronto upon them, as regards the fishing license of one chain made thereon. - - The City property of the Island leased by Mr. Gray, and which in many instances is leased to others, may at present be put down, within the fishing license altogether, in consequence of the very high state of the water this season on Toronto Island. - -

I have to apologize as I deemed it my duty to give you these full particulars  
With due respect.

Hon. Minister  
Toronto

I have the  
Obedt Servt D. C.

Sir,

30. June 1876. -

I have the honor to send you herewith my  
 diary and disbursements of petty expenses for quar-  
 ter ending this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, you will please  
 find is. -

Vouchers No. 1, Postages <sup>97</sup> , Telegraphs <sup>42</sup> , Stationery <sup>2,35</sup>	# 4. 117.70.
" " 2, Office Rent.	3.74,
" " 3, Paid Chris. Case, special services &c.	5.00,
" " 4, For New Boat and Boat Store - Complete, by your permission.	5.50,
" " 5, Mr Joseph Moon - &c, G. Guardian - Rouge and St. Lawrence Creek, for October and November 1875. -	89.40,
" " 6, Mr Moses Smith, G. Guardian, and three others, Duffins Creek, for October and November 1875. -	40.00,
" " 7, Charles John Kerr, services as Boat- man in B. bay, and G. Ontario, during the quarter. - - -	130.00,
	25.00
	Total, \$416.34.

With reference to the high rate paid for the  
 protection of Salmon Lake in Duffins Creek, it  
 was unavoidable, because of a dam then being  
 being under construction, and which was sanctioned  
 by the Department. -

In visiting the fisheries of my division, dur-  
 ing the quarter ended, I only done so, because  
 duty alone called me there.

With due respect,

I have the honor to be,

Hon. Minister

John W. Kent

Ottawa,



My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter, and in reply I have to inform you that I sent your license to you on last Tuesday addressed to Jas. Thomas, 9-10 Credit, 400 York, and to be delivered to you personally. . . .

The fishing Act, has not been changed in any way, that affects you, so that if any one maddles you, let me know at once. . . .

Your money was duly received and sent to the Department - Ottawa; I have also received from Mr. Thomas Thomas, of Oakville, five dollars, for a license to fish White Fish, and Salmon Trout gill nets in Lake Ontario, at Oakville, this license will be received next week and sent to him. . . . I could give the license at once myself but I now send for the license first, when I receive it I can sign, and deliver it. . . .

I will come down and see you, as soon as I get the license for Mr. Thomas - With kind regards, remain

Thomas Blad 22<sup>nd</sup>

Lake Shore

Oakville

1st July 1876

P.S. Regarding the receipt of license Thomas can commence fishing -

Sir. —

21<sup>st</sup> June 1876. —

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 19<sup>th</sup> instant, in reply to my application of the 16<sup>th</sup> instant, for a fishing license being granted to Peter Bath of Port Dalhousie, for to fish in Port Dalhousie. —

I have now the honor to recommend that you will be pleased to grant a boat license to Peter Bath, Port Dalhousie, for five dollars, already paid for, to fish Salmon Trout, White Fish, and Cusco gill nets in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Grantham, County of Lincoln. — This License will place Bath, altogether outside the fishing licensed limits of the St. Catharines Fish and Game Club. —

With hard times, a starving family, for support, "others may pause" but I have no hesitation in making this application; and I specially recommend you to be pleased to grant the boat License. — With due respect,

I Have &amp;c.

Wm. M. M. M.  
H. H. H.

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

+ Monday, 3. July 1876.

On M. beach. — Thomas Joyce paid me \$7.00, the balance of his license fee. — Ben. Golds. paid me \$ ten dollars, for his seine hauling ground. — and S. R. Culp, and David Byson. Paid me \$5. for seine hauling ground, in front of Mr. Hopkins. — went out at 8. a. m. came in at 7.30. p. m. Miles 30. \$4.40<sup>+</sup> 2.50<sup>+</sup>. Tolls 8<sup>+</sup>, dinner for self and son 50<sup>+</sup>. — \$3.00<sup>+</sup>.

See,

3. July 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
Cheque No. 146, for the sum of eight dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
for this current year as follows;

1. Mr. Thomas Thomas, of Oakville - For license  
to fish Salmon Trout, and White fish gill nets, in  
Lake Ontario, at Oakville, in front of the township  
of Trafalgar. - - - \$ 5.00.

2, Mr. John Mouldfoot, of Whitby. For li-  
cense to fish in Lake Ontario, Whitby Star-  
bow, the same as last year - - - 3.00

Total \$8.00

Will you be pleased to send me the licenses  
at once, and oblige.

I have the

Hon. Minister  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

+ Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> July 1876.

At St. Catharines, and Niagara, James Cant-  
well - paid me \$5. for Boat license. John  
Bolton - paid me \$5. for Boat license, and  
Alex Keith - paid me on acct \$4. for boat li-  
cense - went out at 8. a. m. Came in at 1.30  
p. m. Miles 48. Ry fare \$1.10, Stage fare 50,  
dinner tea, and bed 75. Total \$2.50+

+ Wednesday, 5. July 1876. -

Niagara - Port Walhousie, St. Catharines, and  
home, gave Peter Bath. his license - went out at 5,  
a. m. Came in at 1.30. p. m. Miles 50. Ry fare \$2.00,  
Ry fare \$1.10, breakfast, 40. 15. 5. Total \$3.70

Sir,

5. July 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
Cheque No: 86, for the sum of Twenty Seven dol-  
lars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
for this current season as follows: -

No: 1. - Mr Thomas Joyce, balance for fishing license  
in Lake Ontario, on B. beach, already received  
and delivered. - - - \$ 2  
7.00.

" 2. Mr Benjamin Golds. for license to Seine  
haul on station No: 6, in Lake Ontario, on B.  
beach, already received, and delivered. 10.00.

" 3. Mr John Bolton - for boat license to  
fish White fish gill nets, &c, in Lake Ontario,  
at Niagara, already received and deliv-  
ered. - 5.00.

" 4. Mr James Canbwell, for boat license to  
fish White fish gill nets &c, in Lake Ontario,  
at Niagara, already received, and delivered. 5.00.

With much respect

Total \$ 27.00

Son: Minister,

I Have the

H. H. H.

Officer

John W. Kerr

S.O.

July 11<sup>th</sup> 1876. -

Mailed. John Broadbent - license to  
Whitby P. office. -

Mailed. Thomas Thomas - license to  
Thomas Blade Esq

Oakville P. office.

Onto

Alex. Rolle paid me \$2. on acct  
of his license fee. -



Sir,

6. July 1876,

I have the honor to report for your information that the North Western Railway Company of Hamilton through their Contractor, have commenced to build their Railroad on B. beach, in the township of Nelson. ---

In behalf of the licensed fishermen of B. beach, I now inform you, that it will be necessary for the department to impose upon that company, and require that company to construct a Railway crossing over their railway there, to each licensed fishing ground, on B. beach. ---

As the Railway running through B. beach, will be fenced in, on both sides, it will also be required that gates shall be put up at these crossings through which the licensed fishermen and their crews, shall during all fishing seasons have free access, over the same to their respective fisheries, in either B. bay, or in Lake Ontario. ---

In the interest of the Fisheries, I deem it my duty to make this application, so that you will please at once apply, and have this necessary arrangement entered into immediately, which is just as essential as the Bridging of the Canal there, is, under proper restrictions. ---

I strongly recommend this, so that you may at once be pleased to act and thereby cause the same to be carried into effect, as the work progresses, as well, as all other rights of fishermen justly entitled to, in the premises, otherwise it may cause hereafter much confusion, and wrangling. -

With due respect

I have, Sir,

John W. Kerr,  
J. R.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H.  
Ottawa,

Sir,

7. July 1876.

With reference to my report to you of the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June last, relative to Mr Benjamin Eggar, of Wellington Square, being there about to dredge a canal, or water course through B. beach, from Morants or Kerr's Pond, into Lake Ontario.---

I beg now to report that I passed there, on last Monday - and I found that he has accomplished, what I then reported to you, it was his intention to carry into effect.---

As I passed over the Cut on a temporary Bridge, I observed the water rushing there, from the Lake Ontario into the Bay at a rapid pace.---

With much respect,

Hon. Minister,

I Have &amp;c.

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

+ Monday, 10. July 1876. -

On B. beach - heard from J. N. that Ben: Gold hauled 3 times on Saturday night, - heard from J. C. that Hehemiah Grey fished a Herring Centre on Saturday night - that Ben: Clark helped him to haul in - and then saw the herring Centre. --- Thence to Mmuna and saw Paddy Stand - home all night, went out at 4. A. M. came in at 11. A. M. Miles about 36. Sta W<sup>2</sup> 2.00.

Before leaving in the morning - jumped down of the Waggon - when a pistol in my right hand Coat pocket struck against the tire of the Wheel - exploded - and went back the side of Waggon. the bullet

leaving a clean hole there - also leaving another in my Coat, and setting the Pocket on fire - took the pistol in, and locked it up in my desk. - In jumping down off the Wagon, the pocket in which the pistol was in, was next the Wagon - and the bullet took its course through the side of the Wagon. —

Sir,

12, July 1876.

I have the honor to apply to you in behalf of Mr George Wagner - an American - and a resident of Youngston, in the State of New York - for a lease hauling ground in the Niagara River, township of Niagara; commencing at the Black Horse Tavern, thence up the River, to Fields or Currier's bend - at \$10. per year. —

I have much pleasure in recommending this application may be granted, so that Mr Wagner may go on and clear the ground. — He will adhere to our laws, in all particulars. —

With due respect,

I Have &c.

John W. Kern

J. W.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

Sir,

12. July 1876.-

I have the honor to report for your information that large quantities of gravel and sand, has been daily taken off the Fishery Reserve of One Chain from the waters edge of Lake Ontario, on B. Bch<sup>III</sup>, township of Saltfleet, and which is sold in Hamilton, for walks, and various other purposes. - - -

This has become the more frequent, since the City of Hamilton, obtained a Lease of the beach, "less the reserve" - from the local Govt at Toronto. -

In order to put a stop to this pillage, will you be pleased to send me 100 Cps of the Notice (printed) herewith, to be posted up, and so prevent and stop the gravel and sand being taken therefrom, before further legal steps may become necessary. -

With due respect

Yours sincerely,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
H. O.

31<sup>st</sup> of August - paid for post  
stamps 24<sup>cts</sup>



Sir,

12. July 1876,

Mr. James Cantwell, licensed fisherman  
Niagara - wants permission to clear a seine hauling  
ground in Lake Ontario, at the One mile Creek, in  
the township of Niagara - it is not at present  
occupied by any person. - -

I have much pleasure in recommending  
Mr. Cantwell to your consideration, and I hope  
the permission asked may be granted.

The license fee to be \$10, for the season,  
so soon as fishing can be carried on there  
by him. -

With due respect,

I Have &c.

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

John W. Kerr

&c.

My dear Sir,

Your application of the 30<sup>th</sup> of July last, is  
just received, for a license in Lake Ontario, in front of  
the County of Lincoln - for to fish, White fish, Sturgeon,  
and pickerel gill nets. - - You do not state how  
many yards of each kind of gill net you propose  
to fish, and you say nothing whatever of your license  
money. - -

You will have to furnish these things at once,  
before I can apply to the Fisheries Department for  
a license for you. -

Yrs. Respectfully,

John W. Kerr

&c.

Mr. Thomas Clarke,

St. John's Dalhousie.

1st Aug 1876.

Mr. John Bolton  
Niagara  
My dear Sir,

Having submitted your application to the Fisheries Department at Ottawa in behalf of Mr. George Wagner of Youngstown N. York for a seine hauling ground in the Niagara River between the Black Horse Tavern and Currie or Fields bend; - I am requested to state for Mr. Wagner's information that so soon as the "Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister" returns to Ottawa - due Consideration will be given to the matter the result of which I will report to you at once.

With my kind regards, 34  
24 July 1876

Yours truly  
John W. Kent

My dear Peter,

Who is Mr. Thomas Blackie of Port Dalhousie, who wants a License to fish in Lake Ontario, in front of the County of Lincoln please answer me by letter immediately.

Yours truly,  
Mr. Peter Bath,  
Port Dalhousie.

John W. Kent

1. Aug 1876. 34

Mr James Hawthell,  
Niagara.  
My dear Sir,

Your application for a fishing ground in Lake Ontario, at the one mile mark, Niagara Township being duly received by me; I submit that, and recommended the same to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Mr. [unclear] at Ottawa. - for his consideration, and who has been pleased to grant you a license for the same. In the mean time, and ~~with~~ I come down you can take possession of the fishing ground, as now proposed.

Hamilton, Ont.  
24 July 1876

Yours truly,  
John W. Kerr

My dear Sir,

I will want a few fish on Thursday morning, next to send to Ottawa. -

I will come to Blackby for them. Will you please tell him, I hope you are all well.

Yfs &c,

John W. Kerr

1<sup>st</sup> Aug 1876

Mr John [unclear],  
Prime [unclear]

To, His Honor, - Augustus Morrison - Mayor,  
and the Aldermen of the Corporation of the City of  
Toronto, in Council Assembled. -

The petition of Wm. Ward, a resident  
on Toronto Island, and a fisherman, -

Respectfully Sheweth:

That he has  
built a House on what is described in Charles  
Muir's plan and survey, as the Promenade on  
South side of the said Island; That this  
House is 36 feet long, 28 feet wide, and 20 feet  
high, exclusive of the roof, and contains 7  
Rooms, and it being my first effort in build-  
ing is completed in a workmanlike manner  
and at a cost to me of \$1500 dollars. -

That this House stands at present on the  
south side of the Island about 2 chains, and  
50 links, from the waters edge of Lake Ontario,  
and as your petitioner assumes is an ornament  
to this part of your property, the Toronto Is-  
land. - - - That it does now appear, that by  
the building of this house by me in this par-  
ticular spot and place, a grave mistake  
was committed unintentionally on my part, but  
it being my first attempt in House building  
Your petitioner, humbly prays your fraternal  
consideration. - - -

That your petitioner has been (long)  
personally, and he hopes favourably known  
to you, and the citizens of Toronto, not only as  
a fisherman, furnishing the Market daily, and  
one of the first settlers there, and where he was  
born, - but as the person who has been



so highly honored by the Humane Society of Great Britain, with a medal, and with valuable presents by citizens of Toronto - for saving the lives of shipwrecked mariners; a thing so highly prized by the givers of those honors, they have conferred upon me, but for doing, what your petitioners humbly believe at the time, was only his duty so to do, as a fisherman, and an old resident of Toronto Island, and which is a part of the city, over which you preside.

That this house has been erected by me, with the view of its being Central, and for keeping a look out, for such emergencies, in the future, as in the past. - That your petitioners, therefore humbly, and respectfully pray; That your Honor, and the Honorable of Aldermen over which you are chosen to preside, will favourably view, your petitioners Case, and permit him to occupy the place, where his House now stands, under the regulations for rent, and taxes, annually paid in all such Cases, and as fixed by your Honor, and the Corporation; And give your petitioners a Lease of the premises, the same as has been given to others, who are now making improvements on the Island, and your petitioners as in duty bound - Will ever pray. -

(Signed)

26, June 1876. -

Wm. Ward. - 3-

+ Friday 28, July 1876.

At Toronto, and on the Island, - went out at 8, a.m. Came in at 3, p.m. By fare 1.20, dinner 4, Boat hire 25, Miles 48. - Supper 25, Bed 25

Sir,

I have the honor to state for your information, that it appears the Councils Road in front of lots Nos: 5, 6, and 7, between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Councils of Barton, by actual surveys recently made by two Provincial Land Surveyors, who differ considerably in the location, is not yet properly established. - - -

And as the public at large are mutually concerned, and interested therein, I have with the advice of the Council of this Municipality, deemed it prudent to bring the matter under your notice and consideration; and should you deem fit to do so, I would like to have Mr. G. H. Lynch Staunton - Provincial Land Surveyor here, appointed to run the lines again, and finally establish the Road where it should be, stake off the same, and report to this Council, who will pay him for his services.

I solicit this appointment, so as to avoid the greater expense, and so prevent the proper department, sending a Surveyor direct here from Toronto. - - -

With due respect

Yr. Hon<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>,  
Olive Howett,  
Atty General.  
Toronto.

I Have, &c.,  
Thos. Lavery,  
Reeve of Barton,  
Hamilton, P. Office.  
6<sup>th</sup> May 1876.

Sir,

7. August 1876.

I have the honor to apply to you for a copy of the boundaries of the fishing license - issued by you this season:- To the Provincial Game and Fish Club, of St. Catharines. - They have been reported to me, as exceeding their powers, in allowing persons to fish gill, and other nets, &c. &c.

With much respect

I Have &amp;c.

John W. D. O.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,  
H. H. H.,  
Ottawa.

Sir,

7. August 1876.

I have the honor to report that on the evening of Wednesday last, Messrs Robin Wilson, and Theodore King, of Weynora, township of Saltfleet, exploded a Cartridge of Dynamite, in Lake Ontario, beside Wilson's pier there, and from the effects of the same, they caught a great number of perch, but no other kind of fish. -

As I understand there is a regulation in Council respecting explosive material being used in catching fish, will you be pleased to send me 24. Copies of the same, together with a copy of the Gazette in which the same was published. ....

With due respect

I Have &amp;c.

John W. D. O.

Hon.

Minister H. H.  
Ottawa.

Saturday 29. July 1876. -

at the Island - Toronto and Hamilton

went out at 10. A. M. came in at 11. A. M.  
Mile 48. Ry 1.20. Boat 25. Breakfast 25.

Sir,

7. August 1876.

I have the honor to report for your information, that Mr Benjamin Egge, of the Brant House - township of Nelson - who cut a water way across B. beach, from Kerr's pond, to Lake Ontario, through the water now continually passes, sometimes from the Lake to the bay, and as often from the bay to the Lake; - Has also cut out, a large quantity of the floating bog, accumulated for years in the said pond - and sent it a drift in Lake Ontario. - The consequence is that this bog, has floated all over the Lake, and has damaged and injured the fishermen, by being caught in their white fish seines, when hauling at night. - -

There was no intention on Mr Egge's part, when sending this bog a float, to damage or injure the fishing grounds on B. Beach, it has however been done, and complained of, What shall I do in this case, with due respect,

I Have &amp;c.

Hon. Member,

John W. Allen -

D.C.

Saturday 29. July 1876.

On B. Beach, and round the Beach, found all regular on by W. Square, and the plain and the Heights - went out at 1. p.m. came in at 6 p.m. Miles 30. St and Wagon,  $2.50^{\frac{4}{10}}$ , including tolls. - Had with me,



Hamilton, August, 3<sup>rd</sup> 1876.

To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister of Marine and Fisheries. - -

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to inform you, that J. W. Langmuir Esq<sup>r</sup>, Inspector of Prisons reported to the County of Wentworth, that it would be necessary to cover the Jail yard, attached to the Jail in the said County, with broken stone or gravel. - and the Council concluded that beach gravel would be more suitable than broken stone, therefore, I hereby take the liberty of applying to you, requesting that you grant us, the privilege of getting one hundred and twenty yards of gravel from B. beach, for the above mentioned purpose. -

I believe there was an Order passed, preventing persons from removing gravel from said beach. - But taking into consideration that said gravel is required for a public use, I pray that you will grant the above request. -

And Oblige,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. M. Carpenter.

Warden, County Wentworth.

Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1876.

On B. Beach, got \$1. worth of Wh: fish from Wm Bodkin, paid him for them - sent two fish to Mr. Dausch, paid 90¢ for charges - thereon, went out at 5. a.m. came in at 9. a.m. went to Beach again - that afternoon and by Hamilton each way. - Mile 50. At 4 P.M., 4. - paid Jack Teaffe \$4. for fixing seine. -

Sir,

7. August 1876.

I have the honor to submit to you an application from G. M. Carpenter Esq<sup>r</sup>, Warden of the County of Wentworth, asking permission to obtain gravel from the fishing reserve, R. Beh<sup>r</sup>, for the use of the New Tail Dam, which I strongly recommend you will be pleased to grant. - The taking away the kind of gravel, never injures nor damages the fishery. It is the taking away the run, leaving the deep beds that is very injurious and objectionable.

With due respect,

I remain &c.

Yours sincerely,

John H. King

G. M. Carpenter  
Wentworth  
Ontario.

Thursday 3. August 1876.

at Wymona, to see how matters were going on there, heard that Robin Wilson and Theodore King had exploded dynamite the previous evening in Ontario, see report of 7<sup>th</sup> instant, and caught several perch. - went out at 5. a.m. came in at 1. p.m. miles 34. ~~44~~ <sup>44</sup> ~~W<sup>h</sup>~~ <sup>W<sup>h</sup></sup> 2.50.

Friday 4. Aug<sup>r</sup> 1876.

at Port Credit, and Mr. Thos. Slade, examined a Sterring seine - owned by Mr. Reid, who brought it from Fred<sup>r</sup> Shaver. - warned him through Mr. Slade that if he fished it, or caught white fish - I would not only fine - but I would confiscate the seine. went out at 8.30. a.m. came in at 6.30. miles 72. Ry fare 90 + 90. dinner 25

44 05 44.

Sir, —

7, August 1876,

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July last, requesting me to ascertain the names and residences of parties whom I state are in the habit of removing sand and gravel from the Fishery Reserve on B. Bch. —

In reply - please find the names of person whom I found taking it, from there during the past week. —

1. Wm. Hoidge - of Hamilton. - Team - taking gravel for private purposes. — — —

2. Ralph McCormick, of Hamilton. - Two Teams. Has Contract, to supply the New Tail, - Hamilton, with 120, yards of gravel - please find the Warden's letter, to you on the subject. — — —

3. Charles Pettinville, 83. King st. west, Hamilton, Team, taking sand for brick yard. —

4. John Luby - Hamilton, 56. Pearl st. - Team - taking sand for builders in Hamilton. — — —

5. John Webber, - Builder - Hamilton - has been taking sand. —

6. - Mr. Thos. Hyles. - Coal Merchant - Hamilton. has tak. sand, during the past week with Team.

7. - The Messrs Gurney's (Foundry) Hamilton - have taken sand during the past week - per team. — — —

8. The Messrs Sturd & Co., Marble works, - Hamilton, have taken sand during the past week, - per team. —

9. - John Baxter, 96. Bond st, Hamilton, has taken gravel for Mr. Bickel. - Hamilton - with team. —

And I may add - all the Builders of Hamilton, have been supplied to a greater or less extent with sand from B. Bch., and now that the Corporation of Hamilton, have obtained, a Lease of B. Bch. except the Fishery Reserve, I considered it my duty to report the matter to you on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July last. —

Yours faithfully, — With due respect

H. H. Ottawa.

I Have &c. John H. H.

\* Saturday, 5. Aug<sup>y</sup> 1876. -

At St Catharines, and Port Dalhousie,  
Thomas Clarke - Port Dalhousie gave me \$5. for  
get him a license - to fish 800 yards of White  
fish gill nets - 200 yards of pickerel gill nets,  
and 200 yards of Herring gill nets, in Lake  
Ontario. - Heard from Peter Bath, that a  
man from Goderich - had been there and  
had leave from Sheriff Woodruffe to fish  
in Lake Ontario, went out at 8. a. m. came  
in at 7. p. m. Miles 94. Pay fare <sup>\$</sup>2.00 Horse  
and Pay <sup>\$</sup>1.50. dinner <sup>\$</sup>25.

Have written to get a copy of Sheriff  
Woodruffe License - for the information of Bath,  
and Clarke. -

8. August 1876. -

Sir: - I have the honor to send you here -  
with, Bank cheque No. 151, for the sum of Five  
dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
as follows: For license to fish <sup>of legal size and dimensions</sup> Salmon Trout, White  
fish, Herring, and Pickerel gill nets, in Lake Ontario,  
in part of the township of Pantham; except where  
a license has been already issued, to the P. in.  
Sula Game Club of St Catharines - for this current  
year. - License to issue to Thos. Clarke. - <sup>\$</sup>5.00.

With due respect,

I have &c.

Wm. H. H. H.

John W. H. H.  
S. O.



My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of yours of the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, wishing to know if you have power to allow persons to spear in the Grand River, and other Rivers under your Superintendence. - - -

In reply, I have to inform you, that you have no power within yourself, to do anything of the kind; neither have I; please read sub section 8, of Section 13, the last line, on page 9. - -

I only allow persons to spear in B. bay, at certain seasons, when permitted to do so, under licenses by the Minister but this never happens, nor occurs in summer season of the year, so I would advise you as an old friend, not to allow Mr Tonger - nor any body else to spear fish in any of the Rivers under your Superintendence; all licenses are issued by the department of Marine and Fisheries, and neither you nor I can issue any license at all. I always (myself) take precious good care never to do so. - -

So be you be guided by me, and tell those people you will do nothing of the kind, and if you catch them speaking you will fine them.

With my kind regards believe me  
My dear Griffiths

Yrs Sincere

John W. Kerr

D. A.

Henry Griffiths Esq

D. A.

Brantford

Wednesday, 9. August 1876.

On B. beach - to see how things were found  
Charles Garrow, with a load of gravel, he lives  
on No: 18, Starbuck St. Hamilton, Joe Lee, Mill St,  
Hamilton - a load of sand, - Joe: Lemmon, son of  
James Lemmon - Old Race Course - driver, -  
and Robert Johnston, 162, Victoria Avenue,  
Hamilton - had another load, went out at  
9. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. Miles 30,  
44 M<sup>4</sup> 2.50. dinner 25.

My dear Mr. Schott,

Will you be pleased to let me know if a man named Straight, is, or has been fishing white fish gill nets in Lake Ontario, at the four or six mile creek, or at Niagara. --- Such a man was at Port Dalhousie, but he left there about 3 weeks ago, and went towards Niagara. ---

With kind regards to Mrs Elliott,  
your mother and the children.

Believe me,

Mr Jos. Scott  
Niagara

Yrs. truly -  
John W. Kerr  
D. C.  
10. August 1876.

Telegram

"Copy."

"Part of Lake Ontario beginning at Port Dalhousie, and including the waters of Twelve, fifteen and sixteen miles creeks; - to extend two hundred yards from West pier, and two hundred yards in frontage of Welland Canal or Twelve mile Creek. - On Condition that no nets of any kind be used within such limits. -

The Club moreover binding itself to guard, and protect the above named waters at its own private cost." - - -

My dear Sir,

I send you yours and Mr Thomas Clarke's information, a copy of the limits licensed to the <sup>P. J. and members of the</sup> Peninsular Fish and Game Club of St. Catharines, for the year 1876. - at twenty dollars per, -

Please govern yourselves accordingly.  
Yrs truly.

Mr Peter Bath.  
Port Dalhousie. -

John W. Kerr  
St. C.

10. August 1876.

# Tuesday 15th August 1876. -

At Grimsby and Winona - the St. Catharines have commenced to catch some splendid White fish - got 12, sent 6, to Ottawa, went to St. Catharines. paid Express charges \$1.35, went out at 5 a.m., came in at 2.30 p.m. - miles about 40. St and Win tolls and feed, and Breakfast, included \$3. - -

Sir,

11. August 1876. -

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> instant, and in reply I beg to give you the name of the person resident at Port Dalhousie, for whom I require the Boat License; viz:

Mr. Thomas Clarke - of Port Dalhousie; a Boat License to fish Salmon Trout, White fish, Herring, and pickerel gill nets, in Lake Ontario; in front of the township of Grantham - that is to say: Commencing at the townline between Niagara and Grantham, thence along the Lake shore west to the townline between Grantham and South; - ~~and~~ say for a distance of about 8 miles - from point to point - and to extend from the beach within the P.L.S. out into the Lake for a distance of five miles save and except 200 yards on the West <sup>side of</sup> pier, and 200 yards in front of the Welland Canal, <sup>in S. Ontario</sup> which is within the said township of Grantham; and as already licensed to the Pres<sup>t</sup> Director, and members of the Peninsula Fish and Game Club, of St. Catharines. -

I have to apologize for my omission in not sending you Mr. Thomas Clarke's name in the first instance.

I Have &amp;c.

Hon. Minister,

Ottawa.

John W. Kerr

J. W. K.



Names of person, who have taken sand, and gravel off B. Sch. "fishery reserve" - since I made my report on 7<sup>th</sup> of August, instant. -

1. Mr Robinson - Builder - The Boys Stone - Hamilton.
2. " Robert Johnston, No: 162, Victoria Avenue.
3. " John Lee, No: 9, Mill St. Hamilton.
4. " E. Gerhaerde, 18, Starick St, Hamilton.
5. " George Simon, - The Old Race Course do.
6. " W. Rowland at James Turner's house Hamilton.
7. " John Lutz. Second time. - I found him, - taking it for the information of Hamilton.

Please refer to my letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> inst. for some names.

I did not make it a special business to catch these person taking sand and gravel, I incidentally found them taking it.

With much respect,

19. August 1876.

John W. Kerr

H. A.

Hamilton.

Thursday 24. August 1876.

Toronto, Port Union, Whitby, Duffins Creek, Frenchman's bay - and Port Union. - Saw John K. - Jost, and John Gordon. Duffins Creek, about the Salmon - and S. Wright and Thomas Mansfield Frenchman's bay. - thence by Boat to Port Union. - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 9. p.m. Miles 88. Ry fare 2.30, dinner, and supper and bed \$1.00 + Stove and Buggy 2.50. - J. Lasky - drunk at Port Union and very impertinent in his language. - Total \$5.80

Sir,

9. August 1876.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> instant, regarding the taking of sand, and gravel off B. Beach Fishery Reserve, for building purposes, &c, and in reply I beg most respectfully to report in compliance with the wishes of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister.

That the sand and gravel is drawn daily therefrom, by double and single waggon loads, and teams, for building purposes, and for walks and yards &c. The damage done to the Fishery Reserve, by the taking of gravel, is very trifling, and insignificant; it is generally scooped up out off the surface, and the next blow or storm off the Lake brings in an accumulation of it again. -- But it is in the taking of sand off the Fishery Reserve, that damage is very (frequently) done by making deep holes, very injurious and sometimes dangerous to the licensed fishermen, who occupy the same hauling grounds; -- and it is of this some of the fishermen, who are interested with, have (frequently) verbally complained to me about it. --

You will please bear in mind "if you so will it" that I have not the slightest objection myself to the sand and gravel being daily taken away by teams. The owners of whom sell it for \$1.50, and \$2, per load, provided it be taken under and according to some certain restrictions laid down by the Fisheries department, and not be taken as it is frequently has been in a very reckless manner; It is not out of place for me, I hope to recommend to you that some fixed rule be laid down for the government and guidance of persons taking the sand and gravel off the Fishery Reserve on B. Beach, more especially

as the space now which it is now taken is limited in extent, and as some of the persons taking it, when taking it, when remonstrated with by the fishermen, are not always very courteous to the fishermen in their language. --

There is no limit to the quantity of sand and gravel taken from R. Bch, it continues all the year round, and year after year, but now that the City of Hamilton, have got by lease, a great portion of R. Bch, for Riff purposes, and got an extensive filtering basin in connection with their water works - from the site of which a large quantity of sand was heretofore taken &c. "except the fishing reserve" I do think certain restrictions as regards the fishing reserve should be at once brought into operation &c, by the fisheries department not to stop persons taking the sand and gravel, but that they shall take it according to some wise and fixed rule laid down for their guidance and which will at once convince (them) the public that our fisheries rights are to some extent carefully guarded and recognize in the premises. -- And show the licensed fishermen there, that you have still some consideration for them personally in this matter. --

I give you herewith, the names of person, I saw taking sand and gravel myself; personally, I have no feelings myself one way or the other, as I look upon the sand and gravel of R. Bch as a great public benefit to the Community at large. --

I may say in conclusion that I talked with Amelius Irving, and A. S. Wood Esqrs the City of Hamilton, M. P.s, - and we came to the conclusion that no person should be prevented taking the sand and gravel but it ought in future to be taken without doing injury or damage to the fishermen, or the "fishing reserve" premises they occupy under licenses, from the department of

Marine and Fishery, for fishing purposes. - -  
I Have Ve,

Hon: Minister,  
H. H. H.

John W. Kerr  
O. O.

Ottawa.

P.S. please refer to my letter to  
you of the 7<sup>th</sup> of August instant, for g. names  
of persons who have taken sand and gravel of  
the "Fishery Reserve". -

Y<sup>rs</sup> respectfully. -

John W. Kerr  
O. O.

+ Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August 1876. -

at Port Union - saw Joe Black, who com-  
plained of his lime hauling ground being stoned by  
some malicious person; - thence from Port Union to  
Toronto and Hamilton, went out at 6.30 a.m.,  
Came in at 1. p.m. - Miles 60. Ryf. 55¢ from  
Port Union, to Toronto, thence \$1.20 & Breakfast 25¢.

Mother threshed for me this  
day of August 1876. -

91. Bushels of Wheat, at 4 <sup>¢</sup> per. -	\$ 3.64
503. Bushels of Barley, at 3. per. -	15.09
179. Bushels of Oats, at 2 <sup>¢</sup> per. -	3.58
773 Bushels of Wheat	
	Total \$22.31

The enterprise of propagating fish in On-  
tario, is engaging the attention, in addition  
to the others previously mentioned, of Mr  
G. A. Lacey, of Hopedale. The *Guelph  
Advertiser* learns that he has established a  
series of fish ponds at Hopedale, about a  
mile from Hillsburgh, township of Erin,  
county of Wellington. He has about 15,000  
trout spawn in the hatching troughs of his  
establishment, and about 3,000 young trout  
ready to turn out into the larger ponds which  
already contain about eight hundred large  
trout. Mr Lacey is about to considerably  
enlarge his premises, with the view of pro-  
pagating the spawn of white fish and salmon  
trout.



Sir,

24. August 1876.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June last past, Mr. Manjavian Clerk and Richard Johnson of Saltfleet accused fishermen, under date of the 7<sup>th</sup> of May 1876, - having previously commenced to build a house for fishing purposes, on the open beach in front of Stoney Creek Pond, and within one chain of high water mark, or as it is laid down in the old survey - "Jones Pond"; - of the late Augustus Jones, Deputy Provincial Land Surveyor. . . .

Charles Gray, track foreman on the G. W. Railway, who owns lot 23, the land in front of the pond, and now referred to, and at one time a portion of Lake Ontario, Robert Gray, track-man, under him - his brother Henry Allan, trackman, - Michael Swadell, James Swadell, and Isaac Swadell, - sons of a farmer living adjacent - have maliciously and wilfully pulled down and damaged and injured the same to the extent of \$20, which was proved to, by several witnesses. . . .

Mr. Van-Magnel Esq. J. R. of Saltfleet, who knows the place for 40 years past, proved it was never occupied by any person, but fishermen; Mr. Henry Little of Stoney Creek, an old gentleman, 82 years of age, proved that he lived on, and owned the farm of Charles Gray, 60 years ago, but never owned nor claimed the sandy beach, formed since then, between the pond and Lake Ontario; and Hamilton Lee, who occupied and owned lot 23, for several years, has since sold to Charles Hamiltonson, who sold to Charles Gray; proved that he never owned the beach now referred to. . . .

The defendants named above were each, fined \$1, and Costs, and \$20, for damages done to the House, and these Convictions subsequently appeared published in the Dundas Mercury, a Glasgow paper, of the 29<sup>th</sup> of June last and have never been appealed against. . . . Subsequent to these

depositions were given by James Cahill Esq<sup>re</sup> Police Magistrate - Hamilton - at the instance of Mr. Wm. Brown - Attorney for Mr. Charles Gray & Co. & Co. --- Mr. Cahill reopened the case, and heard other evidence in behalf of Charles Gray - as regarded Title, a matter I believe Mr. Cahill had no power to go into at all, and in doing this, the Complainants Benjamin Blinck, and Richard Johnson, did not give their consent, and were not present, nor notified of such proceedings.

In consequence of the evidence given at the last enquiry - Mr. Cahill, has declined to issue a distress warrant for the fines and costs, and the \$20, for weight, and medicines ~~done~~ done to the house, and so the cases now stand at this present moment ---

Since these trials have taken place, Chas. Gray, has erected a post and beam fence, where no fence has ever been before, across the said beach, as per plan herewith, between the pond, and the Lake, but leaving the Road allowance travelled, and all the rest of the beach open for public travel, and in fact, this is the first attempt ever made by any person to lay claim to this beach property that in reality belongs to, and was never out of the possession of the Crown, and the Fisheries department. --

The pond, and Lake Ontario at an early day, at this place, were one and the same, and Jones Field notes, show measurements made only to the pond - just as they are, <sup>still</sup> during freshets, that happen at this present day.. I send you a tracing of the property, including the beach, pond,

Lake, &c., and I strongly recommend that you will be pleased to appoint, and instruct Frank MacKellan Esq<sup>r</sup> of Hamilton - of the firm of MacKellan, Gibson, and Bell, Barristers &c, to act in the matter before Judge Sinclair - here - in behalf of the Fishers, and Benjamin Bick, and Richard Johnson - licensed fishermen, and so prevent, and put a final stop in future to malicious and wilful injury and damage being done or again perpetrated in similar cases of this kind. -

My Silas Stofkins, who owns the open beach, west of this disputed beach, has kindly consented to let Benjamin Bick - rebuild the house on her property for a very small consideration, I saw ~~her~~ it this - on yesterday. -

With due respect, I have the Honor to submit this matter for your information and consideration. - - -

I have &c,  
Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,  
# # #  
Ottawa.

John D. Kerr  
S. A.

† Tuesday, - 29, August 1876. -

At Ingleharts - Silver Star, Oil Refinery - East end of City of Hamilton - in the Township of Barton; - saw Mr Maurice Franks, - the Overseer, - notified him to keep the Oil out of the Inlet, and B. bay, - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 12.30 p. m. Miles 12. - Horse, and Waggon, # 4, \$1.50.

† Wednesday, 30, August 1876. -

At Winona - thence to Jones Pond - B. Bick - went out at 5. a. m. came in at 3. p. m. - went to Hamilton - Express Company. - Miles 40. 34 & W<sup>g</sup> # 2, 2.50.

+ Tuesday - September 5. 1876. -

Wm B. Bach making enquiry about Dan S. McGwynne, John Stangle, and John Grey - hauling for small white fish. Catching and killing the same in Lake Ontario, on Monday and Tuesday nights, the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of August last, with a sterring seine in Contravention of the Fisheries Act. - and selling the same at W<sup>m</sup> Square, went out at 9. a. m. came home by the W<sup>m</sup> Jages, had dinner there, and got a small box of apples, and basket of pears for the W<sup>m</sup>. - arrived at home at 4.30. p. m. - Miles 24. \$47 W<sup>m</sup> 2.50.

+ Wednesday, 6. September 1876. -

at Winona, - got nine fish from P. J. Staw, - enquired about Ben. Goulds - boat lifted off the beach - and sent a float on Saturday night last. - thence to Hamilton - went out at 4.30. a. m. came in at 4. p. m. Miles 40, \$47 W<sup>m</sup> 3.00.



Esq.

7. September 1876.

I have the honor to apply to you, for authority to use about 1600 yards of pike gill nets, I seized ~~in~~ <sup>Confiscated</sup> for being illegally set, and fished in B. Bay, last spring, by unlicensed fishermen; some of whom I had fined for said offence, in contravention of the Fisheries Act.

The gill nets, such of them as are sound will answer, when repaired; for catching frost fish in Lake Ontario, while the leads and corks of the bad or rotten will nets, being still good, are fit to be used in mounting new gill nets.

The proceeds of sale I will remit to the Fisheries department, in the usual way.

I cannot recommend any of those gill nets, being restored to the Owner because after they were convicted I believe some of them stole and sunk my boat in B. Bay. — With much respect,

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

Hon. Minister

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

P.S. — Maps of the  
purchase.

J. Staw are applicants for to  
respectfully,

John W. Kerr

D.O.

Sir,

22. August 1876.-

I have the honor to apply to you for permission to haul a seine at a place called the point in B. bay. at B. beach. for the purpose of getting good specimens of bass, in order to have the same skinned, stuffed and preserved.---

Mr. John Saaffe, licensed fisherman, under my own immediate superintendence will haul for me.---

I also respectfully solicit permission for Mr. Alex. Rollo, licensed gill net fisherman B. Bay to set his Salmon Trout gill nets in B. bay. for to catch some large specimens of white fish for a similar purpose.

You permitted me to do this last fall, and obtain good specimens for Mr. W. H. Grass, Secretary of the Advisory Board, for the Centennial Philadelphia - but when ready to commence his gentlemen backed down - and so no haul was made and no fish were procured.---

With due respect,

Yours faithfully,

I have the

Ottawa.

John W. ...

D.O.

Sir,

22. August 1876. -

I have the honor to recommend that Mr O. L. Stecks, who lives at the mouth of the Stumber, be appointed Guardian of the same at \$20. per year, to protect the Salmon therein during the spawning time and all the year round. - - -

I heard recently of three Salmon being caught this season in this Creek, two at Howlands Mill - and one speared, lower down the Creek hence why. I believe a permanent Guardian is now become a necessity. - I will endeavour to find out the names of the persons who caught these fish.

With due respect

Hon. Minister

I have the

John W. Stecks

Ottawa.

D.O.

+ Friday, 8. September 1876. -

On the Heights - and bound by the plains, and the beach. - Thomas Loe - Complained that the Railway is built so as to obstruct his fishing and fishing ground. - thence - on over the Beach. - saw Mr McFayne - Dick Gray. Jack Raaffe. told Jack - I had permission to get hals. - went out at 8. a. m. Came in at 4. p. m. - Edward with me. - Colles 84 - 544 W<sup>3</sup> 3.00. Miles 30. -

Sir -

28. Aug<sup>th</sup> 1876. -

I have the honor to report for your information that Mr. Moses Smith - Mill Owner - of Elm Vale, Gloucester Mills - at Dufferin Creek. Township of Pickering, who had charge of this Salmon Creek last fall as far as deer for the protection of the Salmon while spawning there, and who was appointed to this position after Mr. Wm. Stathack's death, failed and became a Bankrupt, last winter, and losing all his property has since moved away to a far distance, in consequence of which - I beg to recommend that Mr. John Gordon Sr. and Mr. John Gordon Jr. of the village of Dufferin be appointed to the position of guards at the rate of  $\$1\frac{1}{4}$  per day, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  per night, during the Salmon spawning time.

Last year, upon my recommendation to you, four persons including Mr. Smith, had charge of Dufferin Creek during the Salmon spawning season, but as the Railway Iron Bridge over the Creek, is now completed, and the old Creek abutments of the old Ry Bridge, have been since removed, I consider the Messrs. John Gordon Sr. and Jr. will be able to give the necessary, and required protection to the Salmon there next fall, - beside I will myself occasionally give this Creek my vigilant attention during spawning time. -

I am Sir

Hon. Minister

John W. Kerr

C. O.



Sir,

28. August 1876. —

I have the honor to recommend that Mr James Maxwell, of Maxwell's Mills - Township of Scarborough, Post Office - Stiland Creek - on the Rouge be appointed Guardian to protect the Salmon in the Rouge during spawning time next fall at \$20. for the fall. —

I called on Mr Maxwell, the 14. day of November 1875, when he kindly consented to do so, altho he repeatedly heretofore declined to accept the appointment. —

He lives on the Rouge, convenient to where the Salmon spawn, has a good mill - and he knows the people well, who poach, for the Salmon. — — —

Mr Joseph Black, licensed fisherman, who lives on the Rouge about a mile from the mouth, I also recommended to be appointed a Guardian at \$20. for next fall. —

With due respect,

I Have &c.

Yours Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

John W. Kent

C. O.

+ Wednesday, 13, September 1876. —

At Toronto, Port Union, and Duffin's Creek, and back to Port Union, — saw Mr John Gordon Sr of Duffin's Creek, who engaged to protect the Salmon in the Creek for \$50. for self, and \$1.50. for his son — thence to the Rouge Hill. saw Joseph Black, and he engaged to protect the Salmon in the Rouge during the spawning season — see Engagement, dated 18. instant. By fare to Duffin's Creek \$1.95<sup>4</sup>. dinner 25<sup>4</sup>, supper 50<sup>4</sup>. Horse and buggy from Duffin's Creek to Port Union 1.50. Bed 25<sup>4</sup> miles 80 — Total \$4.45<sup>4</sup>

Ser.

11. September 1876.

I have the honor to recommend, that spearing for Herring in B. bay, and Dundas Marsh, may be permitted by you this fall in the open waters, commencing on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November next, and ending on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December next, at the rate of One dollar for each person, so employed whether spearing or paddling, as the case may be. ....

This fishing only to be allowed in B. bay, at the Heights within the space situated north of a line between Carrolls Point and the mouth of the D'Arjard Canal. -- Also in that part of B. bay, situated between the Emigrant wharf, Great Western Railway, and St. J. Birleys wharf, and lying west of Bay street. --

I will require to issue about 40 licenses (spearing) for this fishing. ....

There as regarding spearing for pike and hals, through the ice in B. bay, and Dundas Marsh, during next winter. I will require about 40 licenses in this latter case to commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January next, and terminate on 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, following, One dollar to be charged in all cases, to each person who avails himself of such permission from the Hon: the Minister. -- And I beg most respectfully to recommend that the above be the limit to all spearing hereafter in B. bay, and Dundas Marsh. --

With due respect

Hon: Minister  
H. H. H.

I Have the

John W. Kerr.

H. O.

P.S. I will require blank license similar to the enclosed. --

J. W. Kerr.

Sir,

11. September 1876.-

After mature consideration I have come to the conclusion to recommend for your consideration, that the fishing of pike gill nets, be from this time forward, and henceforth discontinued in the waters of N. bay, and Dundas Marsh, and all the inlets, outlets and the small bays of the same. -- And I further beg most respectfully to recommend that a close season for pike be fixed, for N. bay, and Dundas Marsh, say: from the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April until the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May in each year, and in the waters of the same and that the same be a close season for the protection of pike during spawning season. --

In coming to such conclusion I have also in view to recommend that anglers who fish for, and catch fish for sale, and who sell their fish, eels, bass and pike should so soon as pike gill nets are discontinued in N. bay, and the spearing for pike and bass, is limited from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January to the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March in each year pay a small license for the privilege, made so advantageous to them while those persons who angle as an amusement should be allowed to go free. --

With due respect,

I Have &amp;c

Wm. H. Miller,  
 Esq.  
 Ottawa.

John W. Kerr,  
 Esq.  
 F. S.

Sec. O

15. September 1876.

I have the honor to apply to you, for twelve  
Copies of the Fisheries Act; also twenty four Copies of  
Fishing Regulations adopted by the Governor General in  
Council on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April and 30<sup>th</sup> September 1875. -  
Issued by public Notice from W. G. Whitches - Com-  
missioner of Fisheries - Ottawa, 1<sup>st</sup> October 1875. - If  
any change has been made in the Close Season  
please let me have them in the public, No-  
tices, as they are at present in existence. -

With due respect

I Have &c

Hon. Minister  
F. F. V.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

My dear Mr Elliott.

Your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup>,  
instant, received: And in reply, I beg to in-  
form you that I will apply, and recom-  
mend a license to issue to Messrs. Joseph  
McMaster, and John Keith, for five dol-  
lars, for the balance of this year. -

With kind regards. -

Yours truly, -

Hamilton, Onto

18. Sep: 1876. -

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Mr Thomas Elliott  
Niagara - N. office.  
Onto

P.S. My impression - there is already a suf-  
ficient quantity of Herring and Pickled gill  
nets, placed at Niagara - Who are the  
applicants? -

J. W. Kerr



Private, and Confidential."

My dear Sir.

As I informed you recently, I wish to engage your services to protect the parent Salmon, and other fish in the Range &c. during the spawning time, this fall; and for which I will engage in behalf of the Fisheries department to pay you \$20.- and half of such fines as may be imposed (and paid) through your personal exertions. --- I want you as franc-tireur to do your duty for me like an honorable man, and don't shut your eyes on any man you find illegally fishing in the Range, the ponds, or within 200 yards of the mouth of the Range, in Lake Ontario; from this time henceforth. ....

Take down, and send me the names of all persons trolling, and spearing with light sacks - fishing gill nets, or trap nets, or any other apparatus therein, and let me have them immediately - giving residence, day, and date, and the kind of fishing so carried on, use every means to Catch these illegal fishermen. ....

I have been privately told that the Williams from Toronto, who have a stone hooker occasionally in the mouth of the Range, fishes a gill net in the Range and ponds - Watch them, and when they set it next time - lift it - dry and keep it for me. - Hugh Graham has a salmon gill net, for setting at the forks of the Big and Little Range - the first time he sets this net, you must Catch him privately and when he goes away, take the net up, dry and keep for me, and press case. --- Then there is Dave Thompson, - who hides his spear sometimes near the rapids - you must Catch him for me, - Seneca Thompson and Seth Stambler whom you say poach and kill the salmon, and spear with light sacks - must be caught as you proposed it me, when they offend. --- Stevens of the Toll gate, and the people from Blackham, - you must trap them every one, and hence it is, that I place so much

Confidence in you, should Bill McEbert, the  
stones, or any person else come from Frenchman  
bay, you will have to give them your particular  
attention also. -- Between yourself, and son, you  
will be able to catch every one who violate  
the law. --

After I saw you the other day, I was told  
you gave your line some time ago, to persons from  
Blackham - to haul at the Rouge - they caught a  
salmon - but did not release it, please send  
me the names of these persons at once. --

I hope you will not abuse the Confidence  
I now place in you, and with my kind re-  
gards. --

Yours truly, --

John W. Kerr

J. Quesset.

Mr Joseph Black,  
Fisherman. --

Hamilton, Onto,

The Rouge Hill P. Office, 18. Sept. 1876. --  
Onto

P.S. -- Please sign the enclosed engagement,  
put it under cover, and address to me as  
within, --

yfs J. W. Kerr

\*. Thursday, 14. September 1876. --

at Port Union. Toronto and home - went  
out at 8. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. - Miles 60.  
Ry fare \$1.75 + breakfast and dinner 50. --

Memoirandum of an engagement entered into, between Joseph Black of the Rouge Hill, in the Township of Pickering, South Ontario, Fisherman, - And the Fisheries Department of the Dominion of Canada - at Ottawa. -

I hereby engage and enter into an agreement with J. W. Kerr, Fishery Overseer, - Hamilton, in behalf of the Fisheries Department; to watch, guard and protect the parent salmon, that may enter the Rouge (River) to spawn, and all other fishes therein - between the mouth of the Rouge, and two hundred of the mouth of the same in Lake Ontario, including the Big, and Little Rouge, from the forks, up the rapids as far as Maxwell's Mill. ....

And I hereby engage and bind myself to seize all nets, or other apparatus, I may find set therein or in any of the ponds adjacent thereto, and that I will keep a true and correct record of all offences that are committed by any and every person against the salmon, and other fish in the Rouge R. & C. in contravention of the fishing act, and regulations; from this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, until the 18<sup>th</sup> day of November next inclusive, and will report the same faithfully as they occur to the said J. W. Kerr - Hamilton. - and keep a record of the salmon and beds. - -

And I hereby engage to perform the same, for the sum of Twenty dollars - and half of all fines, if any such are imposed through my personal neglect and active attention to my duties as Guardian, on the said Rouge, &c. as aforesaid. ....

And I hereby acknowledge myself as authorized and engaged to perform the duties of Guardian for the purposes herein intended - with the sanction of J. W. Kerr, Fishery Overseer, - Hamilton. -

Given under my hand - at the Rouge Hill, in the Township of Pickering, this 18. day of September 1876. -  
Joseph Black. -

Sir,

25 September 1876. -

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque  
No. 251 for the sum of \$21. dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this  
amount as follows; for this current season. - -

1. Mortimer Corey, M. beach, License to fish pike  
gill nets, in M. bay - within prescribed limits,  
received and delivered. - - 2.00.
2. Alex. Rollo, do, do, do. - 2.00.
3. Wm. Gage, of Barton, do, do. - 5.00.
4. Isaac Durham & Coy. - Grimsby, For Boat  
license to fish in Lake Ontario, near Grimsby -  
to be the same as last year. - 4.00.
5. David Bryson & Coy. - License to fish a  
White fish seine, in Lake Ontario, on B. Beach,  
in front of Mr. Elias Hopkins farm. 5.00.
6. - Mr. Anne Sherburne, M. Beach, For Boat  
License, to fish Herring gill nets, in Lake On-  
tario, on fishing stations Nos 14. and 17, on  
B. Beach. 3.00

Total, \$21.00x

With due respect,

I Have &c.

Yours, &c. &c. &c.  
H. H. H.

Johnd W. Kent  
D. O.

Postages 50. - Telegrams 50. -

Wednesday, 20. Sep. 1876. -

Made a haul this day for hals at the point.  
did not get a black one. - went out 7.  
Charles John - and Edward Kerr. and Mr. W. Gage  
with me. got John Gage a small seine, a  
per sanction of Mr. W. H. H. Commissioner  
of Fisheries. - -



My dear Sir,

I have been instructed by the Com-  
missioners of Fisheries, at Ottawa - to engage your firm-  
ly services to protect the breeding Salmon this season  
during the spawning season in the Rouge...

Will you be pleased to let me know as  
soon as possible if you will act, and I will  
run down immediately, and arrange the mat-  
ter with you. -

Yrs Respectfully,

John W. Kerr

J. W.

25. Sep: 1876.

James Maxwell Esq  
Mill Creek.

Maxwell Mill,  
Mill Creek,  
P. O. Office.

Tuesday, 26. September 1876. -

At Dundas, examined the Sheep Skin Samplers  
of W. Mason & Son, and Charles Lawry. found lime go-  
ing therefrom into the creek. - examined the Dundas  
Cotton Factory - and found dye stuff - going there-  
from into the creek - saw Mr. Brown the manager  
on the subject - and went with him to James  
Cahill (house Hamilton), Esq. P. Magistrate - had a  
consultation with him on the subject - went out  
at 8. A. M. came in at 5 P. M. - Miles 20.  
Paid Mr. <sup>W. J.</sup> 2.50. Colles 18. - Fred: Kerr, was with  
me. - - Got out summonses for Mason and  
Lawry - sent them by Mail to Chief Mac-  
Donough - returnable at 4. P. M. - on Friday  
next. - -

Sir,

27, September 1876. -

I am in receipt of Mr. L. C. Ray's letter dated Ottawa - September 19, 1876. - Agent Canada Express Company, relative to a Barrel of fish shipped by Express from Collingwood - Consigned to A. Clarke - Galt, Onto. & & & with your instructions to report thereon. -

In reply, I have the honor to report, and refer you to my reports of the 13<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> of November 1875. regarding the action then taken by me in sending a barrel of fish I found on a freight train, of the G. W. Railway - "freight trains don't carry Express fish" - and for this act, my conduct was then approved of by the Fisheries Dept. Ottawa. - -

Subsequent to this, in consequence of the charges raised by this said A. Clarke, who lives at Collingwood, and not at Galt, and is a person who was fined the previous year, for a contravention of the Fisheries Act, committed during close season, for Salmon Trout, and White fish. - -

Mr. John Williams - fish dealer, who purchased this confiscated barrel of fish, was afterwards persecuted to such an extent, because forsooth, it was imagined that he gave me the information about these fish and he had ultimately to fly with his family from Galt, and I myself have contributed towards his law expenses from my own purse to the sum of 12.70 & please refer to my letter of 27, March last. -

The American Express Company, having declined to take fish from the Canada Express Company, and Vickes Express Coy - or carry White fish, or Salmon Trout, to their destination during close season, last year (November)

Several barrels were left to perish in Toronto as no person would nor could legally handle them without infringing the Regulation; and so it was I presume that this barrel of fish now referred to, was sent forward as freight from Guelph to Galt. -

I saw the bill of lading myself, on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of November 1875, It was shown to me by the Station Master at Galt, when I was investigating, and making enquiries about this Contravention of the Fisheries Act; I believe the amount for freight then was of 3<sup>30</sup>/<sub>100</sub>. and I understood then, the fish were brought by the G. B. Ry to Guelph, - from thence to Galt by G. W. Ry freight Train - and as freight; so that as far as my little knowledge serves me in this case, the Canadian Express Company cannot now make a demand for this of 3<sup>30</sup>/<sub>100</sub> the barrel of fish referred to, if brought as Express matter by this Company from Toronto to Guelph, by the G. B. Ry - transhipped there to the G. W. Ry, as freight from Guelph to Galt - while the Express Company, should have delivered the fish by Express at Galt, as the fish were marked by the G. B. Ry - there; why this was not adhered to, by the Canada Express Company, I am aware was to evade if possible the Fisheries regulation in the case, that was just then being strictly enforced in my division by the other Express Companies. -

It is quite correct, that I sold the fish for \$2.00 and equally so, that by your imperative order to me, I ultimately sent you a two dollar bill of the Canadian Bank of Commerce No. 25970 dated Toronto May 1<sup>st</sup> 1871. the proceeds of the sale of fish now referred to in Mr. C. C. Rays letter. -

Please refer to my letter to you of

the 31<sup>st</sup> of March last. ---

I was not aware until now that the Canadian Express Company carried white fish and Salmon Trout last year during close season.

I may in conclusion add that American, and Vickers Express Company afforded me every assistance last year, during close time, while I regret to say, as I found out since, that H. R. Coy, and the G. V. Ry, did the same by carrying the fish as freight. ---  
With due respect,

I have &c.

Hon. Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

My dear Sir,

As the Salmon will very soon make their appearance in the Credit, will you be on the watch. - Have you heard any more about that Salmon, that was speared in the Thunder East Spring. With kind regards

Mr Jas L. Miller,  
The Guardian,  
Port Credit,  
Onto

Yrs truly  
John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Please keep a true record of the daily Salmon observation until the spawning is over. ---

Yrs  
J. W. Kerr  
D. O.



Sir,

29. September 1876.

I have the honor to report that the Silver Star Oil Refinery, has commenced work on the premises heretofore occupied by J. M. Williams & Co. in the Township of Barton - at the head of Sherburne Inlet, N. Bay. - I visited the premises on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August last, and warned the manager, Mr. Maurice Yanks - as to the consequences - if he allowed the refuse Coal Oil or petroleum to enter the waters of N. Bay. -

With due respect,

I Have &c.

Hon. Ministers,  
F. F. F.  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
Y.O.

My dear Mr. Jordan,

I send Copy of your engagement please sign - get Squire Munting to witness - and return to me - Altho' I sent for Copies of the Fisheries Act, the day after I came home, I have not got them yet. - We have talked every thing so fully over, about the protection of the Salmon, when I last seen you, that I will only here impress on your mind to do your duty as a good subject and reformer, as you are and I shall be satisfied...

Send me your sons Christian name, and I will make out an engagement for him, I don't think Salmon will be in before full moon,

Please don't put on your son, until you just discover Salmon are in the Creek,

With my kind regards

John Jordan Sr.  
B. Canadian  
N. Bay

Y. O. John W. Kerr

29. Sep: 1876.

Y.O.

Sir,

29. September 1876.

I have the honor to report for your information that on the 26<sup>th</sup> instant in the Town of Dundas, in the ~~County~~ <sup>County</sup> of Hamilton, I examined, and inspected the William Mason, Sheep Skin Tannery, situated on the verge of a small spring creek which runs into, and empties itself into the waters of the Dundas Creek, a stream frequented by bass, and pike, &c. fish named in the Fisheries Act.

The ingredients used for Tanning Sheep Skins is lime. - Chief Constable Macdonough, and I, found a small stream of lime water running out of the Tannery, and a quantity of lime lying on the bank of the stream, and extending into the waters of the same, polluting the water which runs direct into the waters of the Presjard's canal, and Burlington bay.

I had Mr William Mason, the proprietor, up before James Cahill Esq Police Magistrate Hamilton, this day at 4. p.m., when he was fined five dollars and costs, for allowing lime to pass into Dundas Creek. Complaint was laid against ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~same~~ <sup>same</sup> before I commenced proceedings, all of which, is respectfully submitted.

I Have &amp;c

John W. Hare  
D. O.

Hon. Minister

H. H. H.

Sir,

29. September 1876. -

I have the honor to report for your information, that on the 26<sup>th</sup> instant, in the Town of Dundas, in the North Riding of Wentworth, I examined, and inspected a small running spring creek, passing through, into, and afterwards from Mr Charles Lawrey's Sheep Skin Tannery and passing over private property, until it runs into, and empties itself into the waters of the Dundas Creek, a stream frequented by hals, pike, &c, fish named in the Fisheries Act. -

The principle ingredients used for Tanning Sheep Skins is lime. - The Vats in which the sheep skins are steeped, is apart from this small rivulet; But the Vat of lime water, in which the sheep skins are washed is always allowed to pass into the small running stream already referred to, carrying with it, a deposit of lime sediment, which pollutes the waters of this stream which afterwards enters the Esplanade Canal, and Burlington Bay. -

Chief Constable, Thomas MacDonough, of the Town of Dundas, and I, found lime in quantities at the bottom and sides of this Creek, at the same time the water in the creek, below this Tannery, was discoloured from the effects of the lime. -

I had Mr Charles Lawrey - the proprietor, up before James Cahill Esq. Police Magistrate, Hamilton, this day, at 4. p.m., when after a prolonged enquiry he was fined ten dollars, and costs, for allowing lime to pass into the Creek. - Before I commenced proceedings, Complaint was made to me against Mr Charles Lawrey's Tannery. Five men and two boys are daily employed therein, all of which is respectfully submitted.

Hon Minister

H. H. H.

O'Hama.

I H. -

John West

O.C.

Sir,

2, October 1876. -

I have the honor to receive your instructions of the 29<sup>th</sup> of September last, with parcel containing one hundred blank forms of fishing licenses for Spearing Herring, Bass, and Pike in N. Bay, and Dundas Marsh. -

Will you be pleased to refer to my letter to you of the 11<sup>th</sup> September last, and fix the days Spearing for Herring, bass, and pike is to commence and end. -

The reason why, I recommended anglers sh<sup>d</sup> pay license who caught pike and sold them at 4<sup>t</sup> per pound, was that several persons have during this season, caught large quantities of these fish, and one man named MacDonald caught as high as 700 pike besides hogs, by trolling. -

I am always satisfied with your decisions. -

Yours, Minister,  
H. H. H.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
P.

Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> October 1876.

On N. beach, found all regular, went out at 9, a.m. came in at 12, p.m. miles 20, went on by Big Creek, Fred. with me, H & B  
2.00, 50

Monday, 2, Oct: 1876.

at Uniona, to see Raddy & hand disposed of pike gill nets to him - went out at 7, a.m. came in at 1, p.m. - thence to Hamilton, miles 32.  
H & B 3.00.



Sir,

2, October 1876.

I have the honor to apply to you for twenty four Copies of the Regulations in Council together with Copies of the Gazette, fixing close season for Salmon Trout, and White fish, from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of November in each year,

And fixing the close season for Speckled Trout from the 15<sup>th</sup> of September to the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May following, in the Province of Ontario

With due Respect

Hon Minister,  
Y. Y. Y.I Have the  
Honble Secy  
J. O.

My dear Sir,

Yours received, please send me three dollars, and I will at once apply to the Fisheries Department - Ottawa, and obtain for you a license to fish the gill nets you allude to in Lake Ontario.

Y<sup>rs</sup> &c.

John W. Kerr

Mr Chas. J. Laskey,  
Port Union,  
Onto.J. W. Kerr,  
Hamilton, Onto., 34  
30. Sep: 1876.

Tuesday, 3, October 1876.

At Toronto on fishery business. Went from there by Horse & Suggy to the Kumbies to see Strick - he was home - went out at 8. A.M. came in 6. P.M. - Miles 98. Ry 2.20 194 B 1.75 dinner 25. - 2<sup>nd</sup> 4.204.

"Private."

My dear Alton...

I am in receipt of your letter. - I thought you already knew sufficient of Lee: please, not to place any confidence in him again. - - -

I will be down some day after next Tuesday, but don't say so, to any one. -

I heard since I saw you that three Salmon were caught in Willand Creek, last fall, don't mention this thing to any person, until I come down. - - -

Thomas J. Lasky, has applied to me, for a license to fish 3 or 400 yards of White fish gill net, to catch for his own use; I wrote him to pay \$3, dollars, and I would do so, say nothing to Lee: M., any more until I come down.

You must keep a better look out this fall in Willand Creek, than ever you did before, and do this on the sly! See for yourself, go up along the banks, every other day, and make a close examination personally. - For I can tell you Salmon are there every fall. -

Joseph Alton Esq  
1st Union  
on F. J. Ry.

Yrs truly,  
John H. Kent  
H. O.

4. Oct: 1876. -

1. gave Copy to John Davis. -
2. " Isaac Stevens.
3. " John Williams, and
4. " Joe Gates. -

Postals 16 X

Ser.

4, October 1876,

With reference to my application of the 12. of

July last, in behalf of Mr George Wagner, of Youngs-  
town, United States: For a seine hauling ground in  
the Niagara River, township of Niagara, laid over  
at the time until the Hon. Minister, returned to  
Ottawa - I have again to repeat my application  
and do strongly recommend that a license be  
issued to Mr Wagner.

Our fishermen, <sup>at Niagara</sup> do most of their gill net  
fishing in American waters - Lake Ontario, without leave  
or license - hence why! I recommended Mr George  
Wagner, an American fisherman - and because  
the Niagara fishermen have interceded with  
me in his behalf.

With due respect,

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr

&c.

Hon. Minister

H. H. H.  
Ottawa



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA.

Tuesday, 19th day of September, 1876.

PRESENT:

HIS HONOR THE DEPUTY OF THE GOVERNOR  
GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

ON the recommendation of the Honorable the Mi-  
nister of Marine and Fisheries, and under the  
provisions of the Act passed in the Session of the  
Parliament of Canada, held in the 31st year of Her  
Majesty's Reign, chaptered 60, and known as "The  
Fisheries Act,"—His Honor, by and with the advice  
of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, has been  
pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the  
Fishery Regulation adopted by the Governor Gene-  
ral in Council on the 30th September 1875, fixing a  
close season for Whitefish and Salmon Trout in the  
Province of Ontario be, and the same is hereby  
rescinded, and the following Regulation substituted  
therefor:

"No person shall fish for, catch, kill, buy, sell or  
possess any Whitefish or Salmon Trout between  
the first and tenth days of November (both days  
inclusive) in each year in the Province of Ontario."

W. A. HIMSWORTH,  
Clerk, Privy Council.

14-3

Postages 25/10

Mailed Copies this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October,  
as follows:—To,

- 5 Wm Ingledeu Bronte,
- 2 Thomas Slade, Oakville. —
- 7 Thos. Mansfield Frenchman Bay. —
- 8 John Morley, Leslieville. —
- 9 Mich<sup>d</sup> Doyle, Toronto, dealer. —
- 10 John Hand, Grimsby. —
- 11 Patrick Hand, Winona. —
- 12 Joseph Moon Port Union. —
- 13 Richard Gilbert Jordan. —
- 14 Abram J. Grobb, Beausville.
- 15 Thomas Elliott, Niagara. —
- 16 Peter Bath, Pt Dalhousie.

My dear Sir

I called at your place about the 24, of August last, but found you away from home, and so did not see you. I left a message for you with John Koudloak.

I want to know if you are prepared to watch Lyons Creek, this fall - if so, please answer immediately, for if the mouth of the creek is open, salmon should soon begin to enter therein; please write me at once, and I will come down.

Yours truly,

James Storey  
Whitby.

John W. Storey

J. W.

5, October 1876.

My dear Sir

Yours received, with three dollars, in the mean time, and until you receive your regular license, you may fish your gill net in Lake Ontario, between the Hogs back, and the point up West - beyond the Midland Creek. - and out in front of the same for a distance of three miles.

Yrs &c.

John W. Storey

J. W.

7. Oct: 1876

Thos J. Mackey,  
Port Union.



Sir,

9<sup>th</sup> October 1876.

I have the honor to enclose you Bank cheque  
No: 279, for the sum of eight dollars.

Will you be pleased to apply this money  
as follows; for this Current year. --

1. Thomas J. Laskey, Port Union - Boat License to fish  
White fish gill nets in Lake Ontario, between the Stags  
back, township of Pickering, and the point west  
of Highland Creek, township of Scarborough, and  
to extend from the beach outwards, within the given  
points three miles. -- \$ 3.00.

2, Henry Sheppard, Queenston, - License  
to fish in the Niagara River, same as  
the last license. -- 5.00

Total. -- \$ 8.00.

With due respect,

I Have the

Hon: Minister

John W. Kent

Y. Y. Y.

J. O.

Offawa.

My dear Mr Elliott.

Will you please find  
herewith a Seine hauling license for Mr George Wag-  
ner, of Youngstown, N. S., - please obtain from him  
for me \$ 10, Canadian Currency - and him the same. -

Mr John Bolton - can tell you all parti-  
culars. -

Mr John Elliott.

Niagara. -

Yrs Truly

John W. Kent

J. O.

# Friday 6. October 1876. -

On lot 4, B. bay, found all regular - went out at 9. a. m. came in at 2. p. m. miles 10, \$49 W<sup>y</sup>, 1.50. -

Saturday, 7. October 1876. -

# At Dundas - Met Chief Constable Thomas Mac-  
dougall, examined and inspected the Tanneries of  
Mason and Sawry, and reported thereon. in reply to  
Mr. Meque's letter, went out at 8. a. m. came in at  
5. p. m. miles 20, \$49 W<sup>y</sup>, 2.50. dinner 50.

My dear Mac, - -

Mr. Henry Binkley, a deputy  
Reeve of Newcastle drew my attention to the paper  
mill - Dundas - he stated that Cows have died  
from drinking some off the stuff, that is allowed  
to pass into Mordens or Dundas Creek, from the  
said paper mill: please examine carefully,  
and make your own memorandum - also  
examine the glue factory, and do the same  
thing. - -

I will try and come up, and see you  
next week; Mr. John Wilson - Reeve - and Ber-  
tram - deputy Reeve - approve of what we  
have already done. - Y<sup>rs</sup> Sincerely. -

John W. Binkley  
J. O.

Thos. Macdougall Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Dundas,  
Onto.

11. October 1876.

Sir,

16. October 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith, my diary, and disbursements of petty accounts, for the quarter ending the 30<sup>th</sup> day of September last; You will please find particulars as follows; -

" Account, and Diary, from 1 <sup>st</sup> of July, to the 30 <sup>th</sup> of September 1876. -		\$ 70.99.
Voucher No: 1. -	For Express Charges. -	8.00.
" " 2. "	Office Rent, -	5.00.
" " 3. "	Stationery, &c. -	2.00.
" " 4. "	Telegraphs. -	3.00.
" " 5. "	Postages. -	2.75
		\$ 91.74.

All of which is respectfully Submitted. -

I have &c.,

Hon. Minister,

John A. Kerr,

&c. &c. &c.,

&c.

Ottawa,

Friday, 13. October 1876. -

At Toronto, met Mr. Whitche, returned with him to Hamilton - went out at 8. A. M. came in at 6 P. M. - miles about 96. Ry fare 2.40. \$4.00 for Mr. Whitche \$2.00 luggage. - Rec<sup>d</sup> cheque for \$50. gave \$40. of it to Mr. Whitche. - - - dinner 50<sup>ct</sup>. \$4.00 1.50. 8. 4. 40

Saturday, 14. October 1876. - -

At the station - to see Mr. Whitche off to Long Pt. Gave him \$50 - dollars - which he ordered me to pay him - and Charge as expenditure paid for Mr. Whitche. Bought 5.40. worth of Cartridges No: 12 for him out of a 10<sup>th</sup> bill, he gave me for that purpose - went out at 7. A. M. came in at 11. A. M. miles 10. \$4.00 1.50. C. J. Kerr with me. -

Ser.

14. October 1876.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, giving your decision in the cases of the fines and costs imposed upon Messrs. Lawry, and Messrs. of Dundas, with which I am perfectly satisfied. . . .

I however, think it right, and proper to send you herewith, an article Mr. James Somerville - Proprietor of the Dundas Banner, has since thought fit to publish in his paper on the subject; although the day after the trials, and when the fines and costs were imposed in presence of Mr. Harris of the Hamilton Times, - Mr. Somerville, expressed himself in terms of satisfaction with the proceedings I had instituted against those Barristers.

No proceedings have been instituted against the Dundas Cotton Factory.

With due respect.

Hon: Minister.

I Have The

Johnd W. Kerr  
J. W.

Ottawa.

\* Wednesday 18, October 1876. -

On B. beach, - found all regular - made enquiry about illegal fishing, went out at 8. a. m., came in 6. p. m., Miles 26, 544 B. 2.50. - 25 dinner

\* Thursday, 19, October 1876. -

At Toronto, Port Union, and up the Rouge above the Kingston Road, went out at 8. a. m., came in at 6. p. m., Miles 69. Ry fare 1.95. Boat & 2. men 2, dinner tea and bed 75. 147 B. 1.50. 72 46.294



Sir,

18. October 1876. -

I have the honor to send you herewith, a Copy of the Regulation in Council, fixing the close season for White fish and Salmon Trout, this fall, between the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November next, and the 10<sup>th</sup>, both days inclusive.

Last season, you aided and assisted me to enforce the close season; and for doing which, I most sincerely thank you. - - -

Will you be pleased to instruct your Station Agents and Conductors of Trains to observe the law <sup>again</sup> this season, the same as they did strictly observe it during the close season last year, and oblige,

I have the Honor to be,

Sir,

G. Broughton Esq<sup>r</sup>  
General Manager,  
G. W. Railway,  
Hamilton,

Your Obedient Servant,  
John W. Kerr,  
Fishery Overseer. -

Friday, 20. October 1876. -

At Port Union, Toronto, Hamilton and home, back to Hamilton. - paid Express Charges for Mr. Whiteher \$4.00 on ducks to Ottawa - paid Telegraph 50¢ - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 4.30 p.m. Miles 68.  
Ry \$1.95¢. Breakfast 25¢, St & B. 1.50¢, - - - 50¢, 14.05¢.

My dear Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith a copy of the Regulation in Council fixing the close season this fall, for White fish and Salmon Trout from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November next, to the 10<sup>th</sup>, both days inclusive. ---

Will you be pleased to instruct your Agents, and Messengers accordingly, and as you have done heretofore, and oblige -

Yours Respectfully,

John W. Kerr,

Fishing Overseer,

Hamilton, Ont.

18. October 1876.

S. S. Vickers Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Vickers Express Coy.  
Toronto.

Saturday, 21. October 1876. -

Paid for 500 Cartridges, at \$1.35 per 100 =

= \$ 7.75 + and 25¢ for express charges to Port Rowan; -  
Total \$ 8.00.

Sunday, 22. October 1876. -

Paid Express charges for Mr W. F. Whitaker

\$ 13.15 on ducks from Simcoe to Ottawa. - \$ 4.00 + 2.00 = \$ 20.00

Telegraphs 37.

do 40

do. 50 = 1.27

Portage 50

My dear Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith, a copy of the Regulation, fixing the close season this fall for White fish and Salmon Trout from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> days of November next, inclusive. . . .

Will you be pleased to instruct your Agents and Messengers accordingly, and as heretofore, and  
Oblige,  
Yours respectfully,

John W. Kerr

J. D. Irvine Esq<sup>r</sup>,

G. O., 18. October 1876,

General Manager,  
American Express Coy.,  
Toronto, Ont.

Sir, - I have the honor to send you, herewith, a copy of the Regulations fixing the close season this fall, for White fish, and Salmon Trout, between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of November next, inclusive. . . .

Will you be pleased to instruct your Agents, and Messengers accordingly. —

And Oblige,

Yours respectfully,  
John W. Kerr

G. E. Rays Esq<sup>r</sup>,

Agent, —

Canada Express Coy.,  
Ottawa,

G. O.,

18. October 1876. —

Stationery 20

do 15

Ink 30, Total \$0.65

My dear Sir,

Yours received, I am glad to hear from you, the Salmon are making a good show in all the Creeks this fall - please examine daily. Keep a diary, and report to me occasionally, what is going on. - -

Some day you are at leisure, step over to Shoal point, and let me know who is fishing, and what else you have seen. -

James Storey Esq  
Whitby, N.O.

Yrs Sincerely,  
John W Kerr  
Y. Overseer.

25. October 1876.

P.S - Be very particular, and examine the rapids daily. Yrs J. W. Kerr

J.O.

My dear Moon,

I understand Salmon are in the Island Creek, Have you heard of, or seen them. Keep the mouth open. -

Please go up and see Mr. Jas: Maxwell and entreat him to be on the watch for me in the Rouge. - -

If you can get Len: Marsh to lie in wait at the Rouge Railway Bridge - he may catch some person with a net set across the narrow mouth of the Creek there. -


Please tell Len: to do what he promises me he would, and oblige,

Joe Moon Esq  
Mt Union, N.Y.

Yrs Sincerely  
John W Kerr  
J.O.

25. Oct 1876.



My dear Sir. 

It is very strange, I have been twice up the Rouge, within ten days, and could neither see you, nor any of your people - are you protecting the Salmon, or merely deceiving me as all those people I have engaged before you, have done; why don't you report? - or are you so busy trapping muskrats to feed your pigs, and skinning weasels - that you have no time to attend to the Salmon. - -

You must know that it is illegal to catch muskrat before the 1<sup>st</sup> of November - What Confidence can I put in you, when you act so. - -

Go yourself, and soon and catch for me those people who are spearing the Salmon on the rapids, and take up Graham's (2) nets, and give them to Mr. Moon for me, and be sure circulate all over the Country, the Contents of this letter; I am really ashamed to hear such things, and see as I have seen some of those things myself. -

Now just turn over a new leaf, for my friend and do your duty for me like a man - and then you will see what I will do in return for you. With my regards -

Y<sup>rs</sup>, Sincerely, -

Johann Kent

P.O.

25. October 1876.

Mr. Joe Black,  
Rouge Hill. P.O.  
Onto

Telegraph 30  
Postages 10  
Stationery 10

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter, of the 24<sup>th</sup> inst., and I feel much obliged for the attention, and active way in which you are discharging your duty, as Guardian in protecting the spawning Salmon and Salmon beds in the <sup>Duffin</sup> Creek; please keep for me a correct daily record of every Salmon and Salmon bed in the Creek, and at what place, and how many of each, seen by you. - Also have your son keep a slightly record in a similar manner for me.

Please go down the Creek occasionally after dark, in the boat, to the mouth of the Creek and grapple for nets going and coming, and lie in wait, where you can't be seen, near the mouth, and endeavour to catch persons who may molest, kill or catch the Salmon, as they enter the Creek. I hope your son is also on the alert, have the Creek about the Mill, and Railway Bridge, attentively and closely watched, and ask the Miller proprietor to pass the water on Sundays through the Mill, instead of over the tumbling dam or Waste gate, so as to keep the Salmon about the Mill and Bridge as heretofore. -

Some day you are at leisure, you might find out for me, who are fishing at Shoal Point, with my warm regards  
 Mr John Gordon Esq  
 Guardian  
 Duffin Creek,

Yr sincere  
 John W. Lewis  
 J. W. L.

25. Oct 1876,

P.S. - I expect everything to be more faithfully done, than heretofore.

J. W. Kerr  
D.O.

My dear Sir,

I called to see you, as you heard, and have since written to me to this effect. - What I wanted you to do, was, to keep a close watch over the Stumbers for me, from the Bridge up to Howlands Mill, Dundas Street. -

Private information being given to me that three Salmon were caught in the waters of this stream last evening. - Have you heard anything about it? -

I heard also that a few Salmon have just made their appearance on the rapids to spawn, if so, examine for the beds, and if you find it is so, protect these parent Salmon. -

If you catch any person spearing at night or by day with lights - take down their names and send them to me; - I will engage to give you \$20. for each genuine service, you may render to the fisheries in this matter, besides half of all fines imposed for Contravention of the Fisheries Act, - by your own personal activity. -

Any gill nets you may find set in the Stumber - you have my Authority to seize and take up the same: and report to me at once. This is what I wanted to see you do. -

Yours sincerely -

John W. Kerr

D.O.

26. Oct: 1876. -

Mr. G. L. Hicks

Stumber Boat House,

Minico P.O. Office.

G. L. Hicks

Levy - H. Wilson  
and  
Hart.

Wednesday, 25. October 1876.

On B. beach, making enquiries about John Bon-  
nors fishing - saw Ben. Clark and his brother,  
up as far as G. H. Gray - went out at 8.30. a.m.  
came home by W. Gages, and the City of Hamilton,  
at 4.30. p.m. - Miles 30. C. J. Kerr - with me. -  
St & W. 2.50<sup>4</sup>, dinner for self and Charley 50<sup>4</sup>. -

Thursday, 26. Oct: 1876. -

Made a close examination of the local Oil  
Inlet - found fresh oil refuse entering the Inlet  
from the Works - drew Mr. Franks' attention to it,  
who was aware of it, and who promised me  
he would stop it, in future - went out at  
11. a.m. - came in at 1. p.m. - Miles 12. St and  
W. 2.00.

Oct: 28, Saturday. - 8.60<sup>4</sup> - Charges on ducks from  
Lunenburg to Ottawa. - - - forwarded by Mr.  
Munday - Agent - on Friday and charged to  
me. - - - 150<sup>4</sup> on 20th October

Monday, 30. October 1876. -

At Toronto, with Mr. W. J. Whitcher - Rail-  
way fare 1.20<sup>4</sup> and 2.40<sup>4</sup> - Telegraphs 56<sup>4</sup> - Lick 25<sup>4</sup>,  
St and B. 2.50<sup>4</sup>, dinner 25<sup>4</sup>. - went out at 7. a.m.,  
came in at 5.30. p.m. - Miles 80. - - - 8.96<sup>4</sup>

Rec<sup>d</sup> 100 cheque this day on acct of this quarter.



Tuesday, 31. October 1876.-

In town all day - paid \$8.60¢ on ducks sent to Ottawa Joe de Whitcher - also paid \$2.60¢ on his guns - (and telegraphs 2<sup>4</sup>/<sub>5</sub> and 25<sup>4</sup>/<sub>5</sub>).  
 went out at 8. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. did 10. gave and sent ducks to the following with Mr W. F. Whitcher - Compliments. - \$4 B. <sup>\$4</sup> 2.00

Sir,

31. October 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith, a copy of the Regulation in Council fixing the close season for white fish and Salmon trout this fall, between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of November, both days inclusive. -

Will you be pleased to instruct your Station Agents, and Conductors of Trains to observe this law during the close season, and Oblige

Your Obedient Servant,

J. Cumberland Esq.

John W. Kerr

General Manager.

J. O.

Northern Railway. -

Toronto.

Also sent Copy to the General Manager of the Toronto, Gray, and Bruce Railway. -

31. October 1876.-

J. W. Kerr. J. O. -

Memorandum of monies paid Jos, and  
to Mr W. F. Whitchee, Commissioner of Fisheries. ---

13. October 1876. -	paid on Luggage. - - -	\$ 2.00.
14. do. - - -	" Cash given to Mr Whitchee. 40.00,	
do. - - -	" for 400 Cartridges, at \$1 <sup>35</sup> per, 5.40,	
20. do. - - -	" Express charges on ducks. - 4.00,	
21. do. - - -	" for 500 Cartridges, at \$1 <sup>35</sup> per. - of 6.75,	
do. - - -	" Express charges thereon. - 25,	
23. do. - - -	Express charges on ducks, 13.15,	
28. do. - - -	do. do. do. 8.60	
31 <sup>st</sup> / <sub>2</sub> do. - - -	Express charges on guns. - 2.60,	
	Railway fare to Toronto. - - - 1.30,	
	Telegraphs. - - - 2.85,	
	Express on two ducks. - - 25	
Total of	141.154	
paid Hotel	5.00 for	
stuffed ducks	\$146.154	
	Total \$87.154	

Add - Old acct about. - 50.00.

Gr<sup>d</sup> Total sum \$137.154  
Total \$141.154

all still due. -  
1<sup>st</sup> Nov: 1876. -

John W. Kerr  
J. W. Kerr  
J. W. Kerr

Mailed 2. Nov 1876.

I have here ten dollars this  
3<sup>rd</sup> of November 1876. for Mr Whitchee.  
J. W. Kerr  
J. W. Kerr

My dear Wilnot,

Yours without doubt, just received; If ordered by the department to perform the duty you advise me of, I will endeavour to do so, to the best of my abilities. -

Yrs Faithfully, -

John W. Keen

J. W. -

Hamilton, Onto.

3. Nov. 1876.

Sam<sup>l</sup> Wilnot Esq.

J. B. Establishment,  
Newcastle - Onto

My dear Mr Gordon, -

I hope everything goes on well with you, and that you and your son are watching faithfully, and protecting the Salmon to the best of your abilities in Duffins Creek. -

I hope you are keeping for me a daily account of all the Salmon and Salmon beds in the creek, a good and faithful acct is expected from you. -

With my kind regards. -

Yrs Sincerely, -

John W. Keen

J. W. Keen, -

Hamilton - Onto.

3. Nov. 1876. -

Mr John Gordon Esq.

J. Guardian, -

Duffins Creek. -

P.S. Any news from Shoal Point, any fishermen there, Is

J. W. Keen

Hamilton.

My dear Moon, -

Your letter received, I am much obliged for your attention, and to Harry. Lee, and Maywell also. - I won't forget it. - Between you all you should be able to catch some one, beside protect the Salmon better than ever heretofore. - Season for Muskrat only commenced 1<sup>st</sup> of November! So that Lee, his son, and Joe Black, are amenable to the law, for their past transgression. - A Salmon will, if he has only a couple of inches of water at the mouth enter the Miland Creek, Look sharply after the Rouge - Abe Stones, has a Salmon net; have you seen John Gordon lately? - What about Duffin's Creek? -

Joe Moon Esq<sup>r</sup>  
P<sup>t</sup> Union.

Y<sup>rs</sup> Sincere  
John W. Kerr  
4. Nov: 1876.

P.S. I hope no White fish gill nets are set out, Lee, might run down some day in his boat to Shoal point, and see what is going on there, at the same time examine Duffin's Creek, -

Y<sup>rs</sup> J. W. Kerr



Sir,

4. November 1876. -

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque  
No: 8, of this date, for the sum of \$10. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
as follows: -

1. William S. Morse, - License for seine hauling ground,  
in Lake Ontario, in front of Lot No: 25, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> concession,  
township of Toronto, for next year, ending 31<sup>st</sup> day of  
December 1877. - - - \$ 5.00

2. - John Connor, - Burlington Beach, - Seine  
hauling ground, in Lake Ontario, in the town-  
ship of Saltfleet, between the side line leading  
to Stoney Creek, and the first oak tree on the  
beach, east of the foot of the hill, license  
to be for this current year. - - - \$ 5.00

With due respect,

Total \$ 10.00

I Have Fe. Fe.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

John W. Kerr

The Minister,

Fishing Overseer -

Fe. Fe. Fe. -

† Tuesday, 7. Nov: 1876. -

At Harrisburg, Palmerston and South-  
ampton - saw Malcolm Mackenzie and  
A. McAuley - made inquiry about the Salmon  
in the Saugwen - went out at 8. a.m. came  
in at 6. p.m. - Miles 160 - Ry fare \$6.00 + 1<sup>st</sup> Gen. 00  
Horse and Buggy 1.50 and Buss 25¢, dinner 40¢  
tea and bed 50¢. - - \$ 9.65

## Notice. —

A Meeting will be held in the Frederick Morrisons - Hotel - Burlington Heights - on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> day of November, at 3 o'clock, p.m. — for the purpose of issuing special Licenses to all persons desirous of spearing Otterings in Dundas Marsh, and Burlington Bay. — The spearing will commence on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> of November — And only persons who pay a license fee — before the day set apart to commence spearing can fish — by spearing the Otterings. —

Fishery Overseer's Office.

Hamilton, 16. Nov: 1876. —

By Order. —

Johill W. Sten.

Fishery Overseer.  
Hamilton Division.

Sunday, 5. November 1876. —

at N. Bay — saw Simon Peter Stipe — all right  
went out at 9. a.m. came in at 1. p.m. —  
Miles 6.  $\$44 \frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{1}{2}$  2.00.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov: 1876. —

at Southampton, Dinneys dam — Mac =  
Farlane saw mill — on Snake Creek, and  
on to Paisley, examined the saw dust at  
Paisley, in the two mills there, it was very  
bad indeed; thence to Walkerton by Rail =  
way. — Breakfast  $\frac{7}{8}$ , dinner for two  $\frac{7}{8}$ . Fare  
 $\frac{1}{10}$ . Railway fare to Palmerston  $\frac{7}{8}$ , — Bus 25,  
Sea 25, — examined Horton mill see my  
book memorandums — miles ,  $\$12.25$

St. Catharines,

The Inspector of  
Fisheries. -

Nov: 9, 1876. -

Dear Sir,

I was in Dunnville some few days since, and I am told that there are to be seen from 15 to 20, Jack lamps, - in the Upper River every night, and that the fishing is totally destroyed from mass spearing, I enquired into the matter, and found such to be the case; I as a lover of sport, take an interest in the preservation of the fine fish so abundant in the Grand River, where I spend some time every fall and feel sure you are not aware of the slaughter that is taking place there; Mr. Sheriff Woodruff suggested my writing you on the subject, and if I might be permitted to make a suggestion, it is that a man knowing the River should be sworn in as a special constable, to make a trip up the River, and take the names of the offenders, and punish them as the law directs; when there I spoke to a man willing to undertake it in this way; I merely mention this as in my opinion the easiest method of bringing these poachers to time, You, however, will be better able to judge the feasibility of the idea than I can, they are a cunning lot of dogs, and require to be trapped, I shall be glad to hear of a cessation of this unsportsman like mode of taking muskonge, and other fish. - - -

Yours Very Truly -  
M. A. A. Giles, -

Martin Green is the  
man who would  
act for you. - - -

13, November 1876. —

Sir, — I have the honor to send you a letter dated St. Catharines, November 9<sup>th</sup> 1876, — by which you will please learn — that Spear-  
ing with back lights is being extensively car-  
ried on in the Grand River — above Dunnville...

Mr Henry Law, of Dunnville — is the fishing  
Overseer. —

I have written to Sheriff Woodruff,  
at St. Catharines, to say, that I have reported  
the matter to you, and asked for instructions,  
I know Martin Green, who is alluded to, in  
the annexed letter, With due respect,

I Have, &c. &c.

The Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H. —

John W. Kerr  
G. Overseer.

Thursday, 9. Nov: 1875. —

At Walkerton, Stalls Mill, — Stanmore,  
Allan Park — and Durham — thence to Mr.  
Gorrest, — examined saw mills and dams,  
as I went along, made memorandums; —  
went out at 7 o'clock A.M. came in  
at 5 P.M. — miles about 45. Team and  
keep <sup>#</sup> 12.00 — Board <sup>#</sup> 2.25, + <sup>#</sup> 1.25, — Te <sup>#</sup> 15.50

Friday, 10. Nov: 1876. —

At Stanmore to Toronto, and Hamilton —  
Railway fare <sup>#</sup> 6.00, Breakfast, dinner and  
tea <sup>#</sup> 75, for the driver, and horses at Mr. Gor-  
rest, and back to Walkerton <sup>#</sup> 1.00 +  
miles 200, — — At St. <sup>#</sup> 1.50 + <sup>#</sup> 0.25.



Sir,

13. November 1876. —

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
cheque, \$25, for the sum of Ten dollars  
for Herring Spearing licenses —

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
to Spearing Herrings in Dundas Marsh, and Burlington  
Bay, from the 10<sup>th</sup> instant, to the 15<sup>th</sup> of December  
next, both days inclusive, year 1876. —

1. — Charles Thompson —	paid 11 <sup>th</sup> instant.	\$ 1.00.
" 2. — Joseph Anos. —	do. —	... 1.00.
" 3. — Henry Redman. —	do. —	... 1.00.
" 4. — James English. —	do. —	... 1.00.
" 5. — D. Stock. —	do. —	... 1.00.
" 6. — W. Stock. —	do. —	... 1.00.
" 7. — James Lindell. —	do. —	... 1.00.
" 8. — George Cooke. —	do. —	... 1.00.
" 9. — John Birro. —	do. —	... 1.00.
" 10. — John St. Leger. —	do. —	... 1.00.
Total, \$		<u>10.00</u>

I have &amp;c

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H. —

John W. Kerr,

T.O.

Saturday 11. Nov: 1876. —

At the Dundas Marsh is giving out the  
Spearing Licenses, for Spearing Herring as above  
went out at 1. p.m. came in at 6. p.m. —  
Miles & Horse and Buggy #2. — Charles J.  
Kerr, in

**HERRING SPEARING!**

Department of Marine and Fisheries,  
Fisheries Branch,  
Ottawa, 7th November, 1876.

**LICENSES TO SPEAR HER-**  
RINGS in Burlington Bay and Dundas  
Marsh, from the 10th instant to the 15th proximo,  
will be issued on application to the local Fishery  
Overseer, J. W. KERR, Esq.

By order, **W. F. WHITCHER,**  
Commissioner of Fisheries.

Monday, 13. Nov: 1876.

\* On the Heights - and bay - saw Chris: Case, and  
 Matt: Thompson about spearing - John Anderson,  
 and John Barrett, paid \$1. each - for Herring spearing  
 licenses, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. -  
 Miles 10. <sup>\$4</sup> <sup>\$4</sup> ~~4~~ B. 2.00.

\* Tuesday, 14. November 1876. -

At Toronto, to see Mr. Vickers, relative to Ex-  
 press Charges on Arthur Clarke's fish - Collingwood  
 saw Charles Duffey - he had in two large boxes  
 1500. White fish caught by his crew near Brynning In-  
 let before close season; - James Patton gave a cer-  
 tificate to N. Railway - to carry them - otherwise they  
 would not carry them; - as Mr. Cumberland the  
 General Manager - of the Road had issued orders  
 to this effect, and as had also Mr. Vickers, Express  
 Owner - saw Billy Ward, who informed me he  
 was rated off 16. on his House - saw Patrick Gray,  
 went out at 8. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. Mile  
 92. Railway fare \$2.40, dinner 40. <sup>\$4</sup> <sup>\$4</sup> ~~4~~ B. 1.50 <sup>\$4</sup> <sup>\$4</sup> ~~4~~ 30.

\* Saturday, 18. Nov: 1876. - -

On N. Heights - at Mr. Fred: Morris, who  
 paid me \$6. for licenses fees for spearing made  
 out the licenses - and left them for delivery, gave  
 him John Barrett, - delivered to John Anderson  
 his license also gave George Elliott Morris - his li-  
 cense, for Herring spearing - and six others to  
 Fred: Morrison - as per letter to-day, went  
 out at 8.30. a.m. came in at 1.30. p.m. Miles  
 12. <sup>\$4</sup> <sup>\$4</sup> ~~4~~ B. 1.75

3  
 22  
 confidential

My dear Mr. Whitche

Will you be pleased to find my report on the 1<sup>st</sup> part of your letter to me regarding Salmon in the Sauguen River, which I hope will prove to you satisfactory, - my report on the 2<sup>d</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> part of your letter, will be made and sent you, just as soon as the immediate attention of my own division will afford me time to do so, my memorandums being all in shape to enable me to do so.

Yours, respectfully

John W. Kerr

14. Oct. 1876

W. J. Whitche Esq  
 Comr. of Fisheries -  
 Ottawa

My dear Munday -

Will you please sign the enclosed blank vouchers - please sign and return to me when I will fill them up, and send to the department - Ottawa, this afternoon, and get up a cheque in your favour for \$31.30, the amount in full claimed by your Express, and the Pickers Company - on the Bollingwood fish. -

Yrs &c.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

15. Nov. 1876.

W. J. Munday Esq  
 Agent, Air Express Coy.  
 Hamilton.

Sir,

18. November 1876. -

I have the honor to send you herewith,  
Bank Cheque, No: 38, - for the sum of One dol-  
lar. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
as service fees, for spearing Sterring, in Dundas  
Marsh, and Burlington Bay. - between the 10<sup>th</sup>  
day of November, and 15<sup>th</sup> day of December,  
1876. - as follows:

11. - John Everett, paid 13. inst.	\$ 1.00.
12. - John Anderson, do,	" 1.00.
13. - George Elliott Harris, paid 17 <sup>th</sup> inst.	" 1.00.
14. - Charles Smith, " 18 <sup>th</sup> inst.	" 1.00.
15. - George Skuse. -	" do. - 1.00.
16. - Nelson Brown. -	" do. - 1.00.
17. - Charles Shears. -	" do. - 1.00.
18. - Charles Miller. -	" do. - 1.00.
19. - Frank Mills. -	" do. - 1.00.

Total, \$ 9.00 ✓

With much Respect,

I Have &c.

Hon: Ministers,  
& & &  
Ottawa,

John W. Ross  
H. Overseer.

Sent Receipts this day, for \$ 100. Received on  
acct of special visit to Longeen River in connection  
with restocking river there, - John W. Ross  
18. Nov: 1876. D.O.



Saturday, 18. Nov: 1876. —

On M. bay, at the Straights - Edward Moran, David Dennis, Robert Little, and Thomas Allison - paid me \$1. each for the privilege of spearing in Dundas Marsh, and M. bay — was on the Straights in the morning; received \$6. from Fred Morrison - left him licenses from No: 14 to 19, for same — went out at 9. p.m. came in at 11. p.m. — Miles 20, St and W<sup>th</sup> \$2.00 + Fred<sup>1/2</sup> and Charles John Kerr — out with me in Boat. all regular — heard from Robert Little — that he and Jack O'neil — saw a man on two occasions last week, overhauling a gill net — looked for it, but did find it. —

# Monday, 20. Nov: 1876. —

On B. Straights, gave Edward Moran and Thomas Allison licenses to Mr Fred Morrison, Robt Little to Jack O'neil, and David Dennis — to himself heard from Dan Young, that a party from Mill Grove were coming down to fish a series — he promised to make three for me — went out at 1. p.m. came in at 5.20, p.m. Miles 12, Charles John Kerr, with me St and W<sup>th</sup> \$2.00, — Bought a grappling line for 60. —

# Tuesday, 21. Nov: 1876. —

On B. bay, and B. beach, grappled for gill nets, but found none — searched Sands Bay. — Fred<sup>6</sup> and Charles John Kerr — with me. St & W<sup>th</sup> \$2.00, Boat, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 6, p.m. — Miles 15, found no gill nets. — — —

Ser.

18. November 1876. —

I have the honor to send you a memorandum of the amount claimed as Express Charges by the American, and Vickers, Express Companies on White fish, &c. I seized, during the close season of 1874, Confiscated, and sold; the amount of sale \$91. was sent by me to the Fisheries Department at the time. — — —

The White fish now referred to, were expressed by the fish dealers, and fishermen of Collingwood, to the Hamilton, and Buffalo dealers, when I seized them here, but the Express charges to the amount of \$31.30¢, not having been paid I have now the honor to send you herewith vouchers in duplicate, for this amount you Mr. W. B. Munday, the Agent - Hamilton, and beg most respectfully to recommend, that you will be pleased to pay the same, without any further delay. — —

I may in conclusion <sup>say</sup> that these Express Companies, and their Agents here, have before I made these seizures, and since, afforded me great and valuable help, to enforce the Act, by Special, and imperative orders and Circulars given by them, that no White fish nor Salmon Trout, should be taken by any Agent or Messenger during close season - nor for six days after close season terminated. —

With due respect

Yours Minister,  
H. H. H.  
of Ottawa.

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr  
O. O.

Sir,

23, November 1876. -

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
Cheque No: 501 for the sum of Thirteen dollars;

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, as  
received by me for Licenses issued, for speaking Mes-  
sing in Dundas Marsh, and Burlington Bay, between  
the 10<sup>th</sup> of November, and 15<sup>th</sup> of December, inclusive 1876.

20.	David Dennis.	Grand River, -	\$1.00.
21.	Robert Little.	Valley View.	.. 1.00.
22.	Thomas Oliver.	Hamilton.	.. 1.00.
23.	Edward Moran.	do.	.. 1.00.
24.	George Campbell.	East Glensboro.	.. 1.00.
25.	Samuel Snook.	do.	.. 1.00.
26.	Mar: Cummings.	West, do.	.. 1.00.
27.	David Melane.	East, do.	.. 1.00.
28.	Charles Galkes.	do.	.. 1.00.
29.	Levi Baker.	do.	.. 1.00.
30.	James Maguire.	do.	.. 1.00.
31.	St. J. Shawee.	Montford.	.. 1.00.
32.	John Cook.	do.	1.00
Total			\$13.00

With due respect,

I Have &amp;c.

Hon. Minister

H. H. K.

John W. Kerr

D.O.

Wednesday, 22, Nov: 1876. -

On B. Steights, and B. Day - received \$9. Spearing  
license fee - for Stearing - see my memorandum  
book, and letter to the Hon: the Minister - of 23 inst.  
Fred and Charles John Kerr - with me, went out  
at 9. a. m. Came in at 11. p. m. - Miles 20. -  
was down twice - Horse & B. and Team \$3 -

My dear Moon, -

Will you be pleased to get Mr.  
M. to sign the enclosed vouchers in duplicate  
and return to me, when I will send and get him  
some money, and will come down and pay him. -

With kind regards -

Yrs. sincerely -

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Joseph Moon Esq.  
Port Union

23, Nov: 1876.

My dear Mr. Storey. -

Will you be pleased  
to sign and return to me the enclosed vouchers in  
duplicate, and I will apply, and get for you your money,  
when I will come down and pay you. - -

With kind regards,

Yrs. sincerely -

John W. Kerr

D. O.

James Storey Esq.  
Whitby N. Office.

23, Nov: 1876.



My dear Mr Black,

Yours received, and its contents satisfactory; please sign, and return to me the enclosed vouchers in duplicate, and I will apply and get for you your money - when I will come, and pay you. - With kind regards. -

Yrs Sincerely,

John W. Kenner

J. O.

23. Nov. 1876.

Mr Joseph Black,  
Rough Hill - P. Office,

My dear Mr Gordon. -

Yours received, - and its contents satisfactory, - please sign, and return to me the enclosed vouchers - in duplicate - both for you and son - and I will apply and get for you your money - when I will come down and pay you both. -

With kind regards, -

Yrs Sincerely -

John W. Kenner

J. O.

23. Nov. 1876.

Mr John Gordon Sr  
D. Gardner  
Duffin's Creek,

Thursday, 23. Nov. 1876. -

at the Straights, and the Valley Inn, and on the May. received \$6.00 for return - and licenses issued - all licenses up to this delivered - to us given to parties applying - went out at 1. p.m. came in at 9. & p.m. - Mile 12. \$4.00. 2.00 - Supper for two 50. saw Dan Young on a private fishing matter. names of persons who paid to-day in memorandum book ( )

Friday, 24. November 1846. —

On the heights, thence to the Bay, in front of the  
G. W. Railway - depot - Mat: Thompson and Ed:  
Kerr - with me - grappled for, and found a Her-  
ring gill net - with about 120 Herring and two  
pike therein - found Tom Brofs, and Bruce DeFau af-  
terwards in the boat, in Brofs - boat - they had a  
hook, and grapple in the boat - the rope was wet -  
and grapple had a wet weed on it, - gave some of  
the fish to Mat: Thompson - some to James Fred,  
and the person who was with him. - took the remainder  
home - went out at 9. a. m. came in at 12.30 a. m.  
Miles 20. 64¢ B: 2.00 - Boat #1. Fred & Edward  
Kerr, with me. - Took the gill net also home -  
with me. - a spoon hook found in the mouth of one pike:

Saturday, 25. November 1846. —

On B. bay - from 12.30. mid-day, until 9. p. m.  
had my boat - brought up from Mr. W. J. Jagers, to the G. W. Ry  
depot - and after being used it was put into Mat:  
Thompson's boat house. - came home at 10.30 p. m.  
Boat # 3.00¢ Charles J. Kerr, Edward & Frederick  
Kerr - with me - Received #7.00¢ for license  
for spearing. - Miles 24. —

Monday, 27. Nov: 1846. —

On B. bay. - found three persons at a Boat, on the  
Beach - north side of Stalleys Boat House - found four  
Herrings in the Boat - two herrings on the ground near -  
and 24 herring - a little further off, a piece of Herring  
gill net, - and a grapple and rope attached - also a  
spear in the boat - took all to my place  
and on my way - to Mat: Thompson's Boat  
House, where Mr. Malpie, and Jack Gray -  
were after me, and demanded the boat, for  
own, and a penalty; I would not restore  
them, - went out at 4. p. m. came in at  
12.30. a. m. Miles 30. — see next page.

Sir,

27, November 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank  
cheque, No: 56, for the sum of thirteen dollars. . . .

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
for Sterring Spearing licenses in Dundas parish,  
and Burlington bay, from the 10<sup>th</sup> of November  
to the 15<sup>th</sup> of December - inclusive, - 1876. as follows: -

No: 33.	Brook Lyons, - West Glamboro,	paid \$ 1.00.
" 34.	William Lyons, do,	do " 1.00.
" 35.	David Mickle, Dundas. -	do " 1.00.
" 37.	Wm. Kasberry, West Glamboro,	do " 1.00.
" 38.	John Baker, - do,	do " 1.00.
36.	John Lyons, do,	do " 1.00.
39.	Jack Onie East Glamboro,	do " 1.00.
40.	Wm. Stopkins, do,	do " 1.00.
41.	Columbus Stopkins, do,	do " 1.00.
42.	Barney Roule, do,	do " 1.00.
43.	William Staples, do,	do " 1.00.
44.	John Holmes, - Hamilton,	do " 1.00.
45.	Wm. Dreaues - do,	do 1.00.
46.	Mat: Thompson - do,	Not paid - - -

With much respect

Total \$13 00

Yours sincerely,

I have the

H. H. H.

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr

H. H.

St & Wm. 2.00. Charles John Kerr, - John Hennings  
with me - the three men in the boat run away -  
heard same night - that Jack Gray, Hector Maysie  
and Ike Blows - were the persons who were fish-  
ing the gill-net - Ike Blows, and Maysie  
were seen by John Hennings - at the Ice House.  
and I saw Jack Gray - myself afterwards. -  
Suppose the 2.00 =

Sir,

1<sup>st</sup> December 1876. -

I have the honor to send you here =  
with, Bank cheque No: 65, for the sum of  
Five  $\frac{50}{100}$  dollars. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply this  
amount, as fees received by me, for Herring  
spearing licenses, "for the period set apart by  
the Commissioners of Fisheries," in Fundas, Marsh,  
and Burlington bay, ending the 15<sup>th</sup> day of  
this month. - - -

47. Andrew Adams, West Glamorgan, paid -	\$1.00
48. Ben: brickman. East Glamorgan, do: ..	1.00,
49. - Wm. McDonald. - Hamilton. - ..	1.00.
50. James A. Brown, do, ..	1.00,
51. - James Cummings. - East Glamorgan ..	1.00
52. James Webster, Barton, paid on acct	50

With due respect,

Total \$ 5.50

I have the

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

John W. Kerr

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa,

S.O.

✱ Tuesday, 28, Nov: 1876. -

Out and around Thompson boat house,  
and the Height - all right. - went out at  
9. a.m. Came in at 10. p.m. - got out a  
summon for Wm. Malsie - a Search War-  
rant, for Wm. Prince Dehem - to seize Her-  
ring, and pike gill nets, and a Search  
Warrant to seize Thos: X X boat, went  
as before mentioned - Miles 14, Chas John,  
and Fred K. Kerr - down with me. -

St. & Wm. 2.00. dinner, and supper 00



Wednesday, 29, November 1876.

On N. bay, - up to the Straights, and down to Lands Bay. -  
grappled for gill nets, but found none - found James Webster,  
and George Blair - out spearing in Lands bay - Webster paid  
me 5<sup>0</sup> - on acct of license - John Hennings - Charles J. Kerr,  
and Ed. Kerr - with me - went out at 4. p.m. came in at  
3. a.m. - Miles 40, <sup>#</sup> 4 <sup>4</sup> 2.00, dinner for self 3<sup>5</sup>, supper for  
four <sup>#</sup> 1.50<sup>4</sup> -

Thursday, 30, November 1876. - -

At the Police Court, - Wm. Malpas - was summoned up,  
for allowing his boat No: 15 - being out in N. bay, gill net  
fishing therein for Herring - on Monday night 27<sup>th</sup> instant,  
he was heard in his own defence but could not say  
anything to alleviate the offence - John Hennings, and Chas:  
John Kerr - appeared as witnesses. - - - <sup>#</sup> 4 <sup>4</sup> 2.00.

The boat, four oars, one paddle, a piece of ster-  
ring gill net, a grapple and thirty Herring seized by  
me were all confiscated; at the Bay -

Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> December 1876. -

On and about the depot - the case at 5<sup>0</sup> Tom &  
Wm. Prince Depew, came up before James Cahill,  
J. P. - and adjourned until Saturday morning at 10. a.m.  
up to the Straights to see Chris: Case - thence home  
Miles 16, - <sup>#</sup> 4 <sup>4</sup> 2.00, dinner & tea 7<sup>5</sup> -

Saturday, 2<sup>d</sup> December 1876. -

At the Police Court. - the case against Tom & and  
Wm. Prince Depew, came up and was adjourned until Sat-  
urday the 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 1876. at 10. a.m. to  
up to the Straights - and across to the depot of the  
N. V. Ry. - grappled for nets as far down as Cooks  
and wharf. found nothing - got some information from  
Black Kelly and his wife - who live in -

on Mackets wharf, Charles John, and Edward Kerr,  
with me, - went out at 9. a.m., came in at  
10. p.m. - Miles 16. Boat, 14 & W<sup>th</sup> 2.00.

Monday, 4. December 1876. -

Wrote James Middle <sup>Esq</sup> J. P. of Port Dover.

My dear Sheriff,

I have received a letter from your  
friend in re = illegal spearing in the Grand River, above  
Dunville, with back lights. - I may here tell you, that  
the Grand River, is at present, under the supervision of a  
Mr Henry Law, who resides in Dunville. -

However, I have sent the letter to Ottawa, and  
recommended that immediate steps be taken, and at  
- to trap these poachers; If I am ordered there,  
in re Martin Green I can do it!

Believe me - Respectfully Y<sup>rs</sup>  
Joseph Woodruffe <sup>Esq</sup>  
Sheriff of Lincoln  
St<sup>th</sup> Catharines.

John W. Kerr  
J. Guesser. -  
13. Decr. 1876.

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 1876.

Attended before the Police Court, in the ad-  
journed Cases against Tom x, and W<sup>th</sup> Prince Defau,  
for fishing in the bay and grappling for <sup>the</sup> gill nets,  
and having a boat in his possession for that purpose  
that is Tom x and W<sup>th</sup> Prince Defau, for having <sup>the</sup> gill  
nets, and pike gill nets in his possession,  
in Contravention of the Fisheries Act, went out  
at 9. a.m., came in at 2. p.m., Miles 8.  
14 & W<sup>th</sup> 2.00. Fred<sup>d</sup> Kerr, with me.

Sir,

11<sup>th</sup> December 1876.

I have the honor to send you herewith receipts in duplicate amounting to \$176. dollars - which I require to pay up the Guardians engaged to protect the spawning Salmon last October and November - and which I have much pleasure in recommending to your consideration for immediate settlement as follows:

1. John Gordon, by Duffins Creek, from 1<sup>st</sup> Oct. to 10<sup>th</sup> of November last, -- \$50.00
  2. Jos. Black, The Rouge, from 1<sup>st</sup> October, to 20<sup>th</sup> of November last, -- „ 20.00,
  3. Wm. D. Gordon, Duffins Creek, - 1<sup>st</sup> October, to 10<sup>th</sup> of November last, „ 36.00,
  4. James Story, - Lyons Creek, 1<sup>st</sup> October, to 10<sup>th</sup> of November last. -- „ 30.00.
  5. Joseph Moon, - St. Land Creek, from 1<sup>st</sup> October, to 10<sup>th</sup> November last. -- „ 20.00.
  6. James Maxwell, Upper Rouge - from 1<sup>st</sup> October, to 20<sup>th</sup> Nov. last. -- 20.00
- Total \$176.00

all of which I respectfully submit,

I have &c,

Hon. Ministers,  
H. H. H.

Ottawa.

John W. Kent

J. G. G. G.

Stationery 25, Ink 45. - quills 25. Postage stamps 25.

The Manchester Courier records a complete destruction of salmon and trout in the upper waters of the river Lune, owing to the contents of a barrel of creosote, used for dipping railway sleepers, having found its way into the river. The bed of the river was literally paved with salmon and trout. One person affirms that there are 500 salmon lying dead in a distance of ten miles below Tebay, and that trout by the bushel might be gathered out of the stream. In addition to this, it is feared that all the food is killed, and so for years the river will be barren as a fishing ground. The Lancaster Conservators are instituting an inquiry into the subject.

+ Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 1876. -

On Mr. Beach, heard that Men: Goulds. fished up on Sunday, spoke to him about it, - found in every other respect - all regular - saw W<sup>m</sup> St. He-  
 few, he paid me \$4. on acct of his license fee for 1875, and b, - and I gave him back his bises and  
 gill nets, getting from him a receipt for the same - he being poor - and having a family of small  
 children - had Bob Stoll - to examine the St. gill net I seized in the May - at our meal Stoll's Boat House  
 and gill net - old Wharf, all he could say - was - the  
 leads - were Beach made leads - went out at  
 8.30, a.m. - came in at 4. p.m. - miles 26. St. and  
 B. 2.50. Edward Kerr, with me. -

+ Wednesday, 13. Dec: 1876. -

at S<sup>t</sup>. Bridge, and York Erie; - getting up my  
 return thence to Niagara - went out at 8. a.m.  
 came in at 8. p.m. - miles 96 - St. & W<sup>m</sup> 1.50.  
 Ry fare 3.50, dinner tea and bed \$1.00

+ Thursday, 14. December 1876. -

at Niagara, Queenston, S<sup>t</sup>. Bridge, and Hamilton, -  
 getting up my return. Railway fare 1.65, Breakfast  
 and dinner 75. St. & B. 3.00. went out at 8. a.m. came  
 in at 5.30 p.m. - miles 62, -



Sir,

16. December 1876.

I have the honor to apply to you for blank forms of Diary, in duplicate, for my use, for the quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> of this month. --

I Have &c.

Mon. Minister,

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr

H. O.

Sir,

15. December 1876.

I have the honor to recommend that spearing haff, and pike, be permitted by you in the waters of Burlington Bay, and Dundas Marsh in the County of Westward, from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January next, to the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 1877. -- And I recommend that the license fee be fixed by the department at the rate of \$1.00 per month, or \$3.00 dollars, for the entire period of three months. --

I beg to suggest that the Commissioners, will be pleased to issue a public notice -- for the spearing, similar to the notice announcing the "Spearing Herring" -- dated, Ottawa, 7<sup>th</sup> November 1876. -- so that persons interested may have due and timely notice given them to apply. --

I have still on hand, a sufficient number of blank spearing licenses. --

I Have, &c.

Mon. Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

John W. Kerr

H. O.

My dear Mrs Robinson, —

Your kind note duly received, —  
 Thomas Joyce, I believe has the license for the fishing  
 ground referred to, but he will have no objection, I hope  
 in permitting you to fish your 200 yards of Sterring gill  
 net there, so as to catch some Sterring for your own  
 use, — particularly as you have my permission to do  
 so. — — —

Please show this to Tommy Joyce and with  
 my kind regards to you, and Mr Robinson, —  
 Believe me, — Yours sincerely, —

Hamilton, Ont.  
 4. Nov. 1876.

John W. Kerr  
 Y. O. —

BEWARE OF ILLEGAL FISHING. — For some time past large numbers of men and boys have congregated — on Sundays more particularly — at Ashbridge Bay and the Queen's Wharf for the purpose of catching and spearing fish at openings made for that purpose in the ice. Information of the matter having been laid with Mr. Kerr, of Hamilton, Inspector of Fisheries, that gentleman came up here on Saturday to see into the matter. Having fully satisfied himself that things were as reported, Mr. Kerr proceeded down to the Queen's Wharf about 12:30 yesterday afternoon, accompanied by two of the city detectives, for the purpose of making arrests, and seizure of fishing gear if possible. On the parties approaching the wharf they discovered about fifty men plying their illegal and self-constituted vocation. Observing one of the men with a well-filled basket, one of the detectives went forward to take possession of it, together with several articles of fishing gear, in name of the law. The detective at the same time asked a boy beside the basket his name, but the other party, who, it is said, is his father, told him not to reply to the detective, but leave him to him. The man, whose name is James Phillips, then assumed a threatening attitude towards the officer, and at last grasped him by the beard. Seeing his companion thus roughly handled the other detective interfered, and Phillips was arrested on a charge of obstructing the police in the discharge of their duty. There was likely to have been a general row at one time, as Phillips called his companions to help him. This was happily avoided, however; and the detectives were allowed to remove their prisoner and the spoil without being further molested. The above action on the part of the Inspector of Fisheries will convince these parties and others of what the majority of them probably did not know — that it is unlawful to catch fish in the manner stated, and that the offence is aggravated by its being perpetrated on Sunday.

Sir,

10. November 1876. -

I have the honor to report for your information, that Mr. Charles Duffey, of Collingwood - fisherman, and fish dealer, brought into the City of Toronto, on Thursday the 2<sup>d</sup>, inst, in a large box on 4 wheels, by the Gt. Railway; 420 Salmon Trout, and White fish fresh, and sold them to Mr. Michael Doyle, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Leonard, Mr. McNeill and Mr. Barney, and which were publicly exhibited afterwards for sale, and sold and bought from the 2<sup>nd</sup> until the 4<sup>th</sup> of November instant, during close season, in the public markets - Toronto. - - -

And I also learned from reliable authority, that on the 6<sup>th</sup> inst, Mr. Charles Duffey's crew, fished up (in Jn Bay.) and brought into Collingwood, 3,000 White fish, and Salmon Trout, - - In my arrival in Toronto, this afternoon from my inspection of the River Saugeen, &c. &c. I learned these particulars; - I also heard that Certificates were sent to Toronto, that these 420, White fish, and Salmon Trout, were legally caught. - - Now while I raise no objection, to these Wh. fish, and Salmon Trout being legally caught, I consider your Circular dated Ottawa, 18<sup>th</sup> September 1876, - has been departed from by Mr. James Patton, and the fish dealers of Toronto, as named above; so far, as I the Local Fishery Overseer of Toronto, is concerned - thus: "The Minister thinks it advisable to adopt some plan by which the good faith of the parties can be proven, to such an extent, as to satisfy any fishery officer, into whose District they may be consigned or forwarded, that the fish are not subject to seizure, although they may be liable to detention." -

If I rightly understand this quotation, your your circular, I am the person to whom the Certificate alluded to, should have been sent, but as this was not done, neither then, nor since, I believe I am justified in drawing your attention now thereto! so that no person can say, this has all happened through my carelessness. -

Your Circular, Continues: "A simple and practical way, to do this seems to be for each Fishery Officer, on receiving from the fisherman, the trader, or Con-  
signor, satisfactory assurances that certain fish in question were actually taken in legal season, and by lawful means, with sufficient references to ensure identity, to grant a Certificate to such effect, which Certificate could be duplicated and enclosed, to the Resident Fishery Overseer, - at or near the place of destination?" -

As this has been omitted, so far as I am in-  
dividually concerned; I consider it my duty to bring this matter at once under your personal notice, more especially, as fishermen of Toronto, who saw the fish there, herein referred to, were amazed and somewhat annoyed at seeing these Wh. fish and Salmon Trout exposed for sale, bought and sold, during the close season, and implying the belief, that there is something very loose in the matter. - - Altho' Mr. Michael Doyle - the Under-  
inform me that Mr. James Patton, has sent him the Certificate, I have not seen it, nor the duplicate, what shall I do in this matter. -

With due respect

I Have, Sir,

John W. Kent

H. O.

Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,



Sir,

11. November 1876. -

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, relating to the subject of a petition, which has been notified to the department, and on which you are pleased to say: "I am to request you to make such remarks, as concise as possible, on each of the seven paragraphs as shall appear to you calculated to assist the Minister in arriving at a satisfactory conclusion in the premises?" -

1<sup>st</sup> "That Whereas the waters of B. bay, and Dundas Marsh, have been, and are resorted to by large numbers of various kinds of valuable fish, for spawning purposes."

In answer to this, I can have no hesitation whatever, in reporting that Herring, hals, (of the various kinds) pike, pickerel, White fish, and Salmon Trout, Blackchinogs and all the various kinds of fishes of a less valuable description, including Eels, are at all seasons in B. bay, and frequent the waters of B. bay, and Dundas Marsh, in great quantities at all times, as set forth in No: 1, of the Petition, for the purposes, amongst other things of spawning, and increasing their species, &c. &c. &c. -

2<sup>nd</sup> "And Whereas the said fish, have of late years been decreased in numbers by reason of the constant use of gill nets, and the drawing of seines, both during the spawning season, and other times, that the fishing in said waters is almost destroyed?" -

In answer to No: 2, - of the petition, I have the honor to report, that you have been pleased to grant like gill net licenses, (a limited number,) to the fishermen residents of B. beach, in fish in that part of B. bay, east, and south of a line run direct from the end of the rail fence, which is between the end of Great and Harvey - respectively on the bank of the bay, in the township of Barton, and Martin's wharf on B. beach, which is in the Township of Saltfleet: - And the

licenses <sup>have</sup> invariably terminated on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May,  
 in each year, - Any gill nets found in any other part  
 of the Bay, have always been seized & confiscated by  
 me - As all my previous reports from time to time will  
 have advised you of. . . . Messrs. Bailey & Boy - of the  
 Ocean House - Hotel - B. Beach, have a spring li-  
 cense - some fishing license, in B. Bay, in front of House,  
 but they fish there only occasionally, up to this above  
 date; and Daniel McGraw <sup>Ben Golds</sup> and Thomas Joyce, have  
 also licenses, within certain limits on the Beach, for some  
 hauling for suckers, mullets, herring, pike and perch, not  
 within for a mile of the beach, but these licenses ter-  
 minate about the 24<sup>th</sup> of May, in each year, - and  
 then there is Messrs. John Bates, Wm. Bates, Elliott Harris,  
 Wm. Jage, Simon Peter Stipe, and Wm. Lottbridge, residents on  
 the Bay - in Barton, and Balthazar, farmers, to whom  
 pike gill net licenses have been granted on the  
 same terms, as to the gill net fishermen on B. Beach  
 (proper) and this is all, and the only legal fishing  
 permitted by your licensed (q. net,) authority, in B. Bay,  
 and it is an assumption for the petitioners to say;  
 that this small limited fishing can decrease the fish,  
 to the extent referred to, in p. 12, of the petition; how-  
 ever, I have no objection that the six farmers, whose names  
 I have herein submitted, should be relieved by you,  
 from fishing pike gill nets by license in future, leav-  
 ing this privilege to the B. Beach fishermen alone,  
 whose legitimate business in life it is to catch fish  
 as a means of living, and support for themselves  
 and families, besides supplying fish to the market  
 of Hamilton, with its greatly increasing popu-  
 lation. . . .

I am not aware of, and there is not any other  
 net fishing of any kind being carried on at any  
 time in the Bay, by any authority, but what

hereto have now laid open before you . . .

3<sup>rd</sup>. And your petitioner's submit, that great injury is being done not only to the said neighbourhood but to the whole of this Province, by the destruction of the fish which resort to the said waters to spawn . . .

In reply to No: 3, of the petition; I have the honor to report, that any fish caught by the limited licensed fish, even during the limited time prescribed in their licenses are never destroyed now, but are sold; and the proceeds is always used for maintaining the licensed fishermen, their wives and families - the fishermen are <sup>very</sup> economical in their habits, and they cannot, I do not for obvious reasons afford to waste the fish in any kind, nor the proceeds of the sale of the fish, in a wasteful manner. —

4<sup>th</sup>. — your petitioner's pray that hereafter the fishing Inspector, may be instructed strictly to prevent the use of nets of any, and every kind whatsoever, by any person whomsoever, in and about the waters of the said B. bay, and Dundas Marsh? . . .

In reply to No: 4, I have the honor to report, that I feel grieved at finding the petitioners in moments of thoughtlessness, urging <sup>on</sup> your honor to inflict an injury harmful to individuals. — fishermen, whose avocation in life, is to fish, for a subsistence, and in a small portion of B. bay, under licenses from the fisheries department, for which they annually pay, while these petitioners, who spear fish, are to have in future the entire run of (the bay), Dundas Marsh, and B. bay, at their disposal, and during sterring spawning time. . . I may however venture to say; that if the department, came to the conclusion that sterring were not in the future to be speared during spawning time in B. bay. — The fishermen of B. beach, even poor as they be, would be quite ready, and willing to abandon gill net fishing.



in that privileged part of B. bay, during the limited spring fishing they now enjoy. -- Confining the spearing to pike, bass, and herring thro the ice, from 1st of January, to 31<sup>st</sup> of March in each year. -- I say this on behalf of the B. Beach, fishermen advisedly. --

No: 5, "And Whereas your petitioners are aware that licenses have already heretofore been issued to certain persons to use gill nets, and seines in the <sup>said</sup> waters to the great detriment of the fisheries of this Province as aforesaid."

In reply to No: 5, I have the honor to report that this has been already reported on, as heretofore by me, as granted under your authority, and no damage has accrued therefrom as to the fish in B. bay, but on the contrary good results have followed the indulgence you have granted. --

No: 6, "Wherefore your petitioners further pray, that no license to use the said nets be issued and that hereafter no fish shall be taken in any gill net -- seine in Lake Ontario within half a mile of the entrance of the B. bay Canal?" --

In reply to No: 6, -- I have the honor to report, that I deem it as great presumption indeed in the petitioners dictating to you a course of proceeding not only opposed to the law, and the privileges and powers with which you are invested by the Fisheries Act; But to ask you to inflict an injury on poor fishermen, so that the petitioners, wealthy farmers might aggrandize themselves, and each other in spearing herring. This is intemperate and as such goes beyond my comprehension. I will not, and I cannot recommend you to grant No: 6, of the Petition, nor to inflict an injury upon men, who are and have been so long catering for the public in Catching Herring.



and other fishes under license paid for, and granted by you, nor can I commend the latter part of No: 6, - of the petition for your consideration because it appears to me the petitioners seem in complete ignorance of what they ask - and don't say, why it is, they ask for it. - -

No: 7. "And whereas the Herring, being a migratory fish and only frequenting Canadian waters during the spawning season; and the pike being a voracious <sup>and prolific</sup> fish and not liable to decrease as rapidly as others, your petitioners pray that hereafter there shall be no close season reserved for pike and herrings, and that the said fish may be killed and taken by spearing, and angling only, at any time without restriction?" -

In reply to No: 7, of the petition I have the honor to report that I am compelled to say: in consequence of very limited knowledge the petitioners have about the Herrings, &c. &c. that in order to carry out the requests of these petitioners; and satisfy them, a thing which cannot be done, it would be necessary to repeal the fishing act, rules and regulations in council. The petitioners seem apparently ignorant the places where Herring at all times are to be found. - - If you adhered to their demands, how are the markets of the great cities on Lake Ontario Hamilton, and Toronto, &c. &c. &c. for instance to be supplied with this great staple food herring, caught at all seasons of the year. - - -

This No: 7, clause of the petition displays selfishness, and ignorance to an enormous extent on the part of the petitioners unparalleled beyond my comprehension. - -

Those petitioners it appears are mostly farmers living as I understand at remote distances from Dundas, Marsh, and B. Bay, they are usually in land houses, grain, hay, and fruit, horse, machinery

threshing machines, cows, oxen, sheep, hogs, and domestic fowls, while the licensed fishermen of B. Bel<sup>but</sup> have no other means of support, by fishing for a scanty subsistence often. . . . The language of the petition is so contrary to facts and truth, from its commencement to the end, that I feel quite puzzled why they should again ask for the privilege of spearing, which they have already the use of exercising under special licenses.

In your letter - You are pleased to state to me thus! "You have already suggested the use of licenses to spear bass, and pike from 1st of January to 31st of March".

In reply to this, I beg most respectfully to explain that allow this privilege during the period proposed, and recommended to you, by me, under special licenses, ought and should be sufficient for all reasonable people, but allow spearing and angling all the year round, indiscriminately, without any regard for the wants of others, displays selfishness, and thoughtlessness, for their fellow fishermen, on the part of the petitioners to an unpardonable extent, which I cannot recommend for your consideration to be granted. . . .

And as regards the pike and bass, they are always in splendid condition, and in fine during the time I proposed, and recommended they should be speared, and caught - with gill nets but after the 10th of May, pike are not marketable fish, and bass being in short season, within five days afterwards, they require close attention on my part to protect them. - -

Of course I have no objection to offer against angling during legal seasons, altho I may say, that during the great heat of summer, pike and other bay fish are not very palatable and many are thrown away by anglers to perish, -

I have however known an instance this season, of a man named Whithead, catching in Dundas Marsh, and N. bay 940 pike by angling, ranging from as high as 16 pounds weight, which he sold for 4¢ per pound all round. -

You are pleased to say, "These petitioners seem to want angling and spearing for pike and herrings to be free at all times?" - But it must be presumed they contemplate doing so under licenses which not be confined to any specified period?" -

In reply to this part of your letter, I have the honor to report that the petitioners themselves it seems to me do not know what they do want, they have been reporting abroad, that they would have the Dundas Marsh, and N. bay, altogether to themselves, "Licenses free" - but to this, to use a legal phrase, I must demur. -

I have above given you my humble views on the petition, and have withheld nothing from you, in doing so, however. I may here state, that whatever decision you arrive at, like an obedient servant of the department, I am, and in duty bound ready and willing, and will obey, and carry out to the best of my abilities. - With due respect

I Have &c

Hon. Minutes

John W. Kerr

& & &

&c.

To S. - None of the petitioners have applied to me yet, for licenses to spear herring, in N. bay and N. bay. - J. W. Kerr - &c.

Note. oo, they petition against being free to be caught at all times by spearing and angling for these fish, have been caught by the licensed gill net fishermen, and marketed, usually at the end of our severe long Canadian winters, long before the choice fish, can be caught, and brought to market and I have witnessed delight pictured in the countenance of those fishermen, their wives and children, when in early spring, a bountiful providence blessed them with a plentiful supply of pike, just at the breaking up of the ice, - and when the proceeds of their sale of these fish was greatly needed by each family, and when the public demanded by those persons, who never spear nor angle nor net! is fish, fish, fish!..

I cannot recommend to you to curtail the privilege you were pleased already to grant to the N. beach fishermen, - so far as N. bay, in part is concerned, under licenses issued by you from the fisheries department. oo





He said, a good many of the same kind of fish were seen this year. Some persons supposed them to be shad, but as they were swimming singly, he and others supposed them to be a new branch of the salmon. Mr. Murdoch, continued, they were shaped like small hogs, light silvery colour, purple on the back, passing to silver white colour on the belly of the fish, and they were the most active fish in the water, he ever beheld, this was in the month of May last, when he last saw them. -- Mr. Murdoch said, such kind of fish, have never been seen in the Saugan River before, and he knows it personally for 20 years. -- He stated a man supposed to be Joseph Stimpson, who lives about the country, said he heard caught a fish in the Saugan River, that he supposed to be a salmon. --

Mr. Murdoch, of Paisley, his son corroborates the father's statement, and he also stated there were two large fish, about 5 or 6, pounds weight each, and they were heading up the River, he observed about one dozen of them altogether; they came up stream like a drove of suckers, or as suckers do, in the spring each year; and the other fish of them, (the drove) were about 3 pounds each; it was the latter part of September last, when he observed this dozen of strange fish. --

Mr. John Johnston - Hotel Keeper, - Paisley corroborates the above so far as report goes. --

Maurice Laws - attends to the bank of the Saugan, and runs a mill at Paisley Station, stated that he was fishing last summer in the Saugan River at Paisley, when Samuel Fleming, who was with him, fishing also, caught a handsome shaped fish, between 4 and 6, inches long, it was black on the back, and light silver colour on



Concluded opinion that it is well worth experimenting further on stocking it, with a large quantity of adult Salmon, as well as with a numerous quantity of the young fish of that species. ---

The plain branch or south branch of the Saugan runs through the town, after which it joins the pretty Saugan another branch and this enters the plain branch between the villages of S. and S. at a distance of 2 miles west of the village of S. ---

Kemp Creek, also coming from the South enters the plain branch of the Saugan at Mr John Yensons, Saw Mill, - Allen Park, Office - on lot 18, 38, 1<sup>st</sup> Conception, - St. D. Road, in township of Monticello. --- These waters, like the upper waters of the River Credit, abound with speckled trout, but require to be protected. ---

There is again the pretty Saugan. It is a fine magnificent stream for sport and trout, they are in such abundance there that numerous anglers have resorted to it and taken many there. by the Warrels fall. --- This branch coming from the N. enters the plain stream of the Saugan, at Dalglishes mill which is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Conception of Monticello. ---

There is again the sharp and rapid run of the plain branch of the Saugan River, it joins the Saugan at a distance of 2 miles from the mouth of the River where it enters into Lake Simcoe along under the Indian village. and the branch cannot be seen from the River in Canada. For the natural to



of Salmon. -- From -- go down to --  
 tervals all the way up, rapids and sharps abound  
 in abundance, and thence up to Mon<sup>th</sup> --  
 at Walkeaton, splendid rapids, with large --  
 deep holes and eddies where the fish can --  
 times hide and secret themselves away. --

The River from Starnow to Southampton is a distance  
 of upwards of 80 miles, --

But then as regards saw dust and mill rubbish  
 of all kinds, it pains me to tell you, that I never witnessed  
 anything so bad or like it before; as my note to herewith  
 under the head of "Saw Mills" will show you in full  
 view of. -- I examined closely for Salmon but,  
 muddy water, high water, and great extent of the River  
 was such that I could not observe anything of the  
 kind; It has rained up there, as I was repeatedly  
 told since last September, and rained all the time  
 while I was there. --

With due respect,

I remain &c.,

John W. Kerr, --  
 G. O.

Hon. J. Minister,  
 G. H. G.

Ottawa,

Sir,

15, November 1846. —

With reference to No: 2, in your letter of instruction to me of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, in regard to the Sauguen River; thus: "If as a Great stream, it is desirable to preserve it by setting a part any portion for the artificial or natural propagation of Salmon and Trout?" —

In reply, I have the honor to report, that I can have no hesitation whatever in recommending that the River Sauguen with all its head water branches, together with a branch which enters the main branch above Walkerton, "Called Otter Creek", be and shall be set apart, for the natural and artificial propagation of Salmon, and speckled trout. — I recommend all, because as Mr. White the Commissioner is aware, that Salmon (and speckled trout) in spawning season, if not obstructed by mill dams or high perpendicular water falls, visible to these fish, invariably go up stream, as far as it is possible for them to go, to deposit their spawn, this done, they descend the stream again: And the upper branches, and minor parts of all Salmon streams, are I am aware always well stocked, and celebrated for speckled trout. —

Of course before you would do this, you might if you considered it advisable have me, or somebody else go up there again so as to obtain for you more accurate extensive information, of these upper branches of the Sauguen River, which would have to be carefully traversed, and each separately, in order to put you minutely in possession of all that you require to know. — I can here state that many respectable persons with whom I conversed up there, were as delighted if the stream were free of saw dust, &c. &c. &c.

and the angling for speckled trout was finally stopped by Regulation in Council, "even; if only for the period of three years" - When they assured me speckled trout, would be then as numerous in the Sangaree River, and its tributaries, as ever they were. ---

As the following assertion made to me, is so averaging, I cannot do otherwise than lay it before you, as coming from anglers and gentlemen, who assert, that they can remember only a few years ago, the time in Durham, and <sup>the</sup> Forest, when at every meal, the Hotel furnished and had delicious speckled trout on the table.

I therefore beg most respectfully to recommend, that you will be pleased to adopt such Regulation, as will henceforth afford due protection, and preservation to the Sangaree River, and its tributaries, and so have these delicious speckled trout, and the streams they inhabit, once more, and within these years, made what they were only a few years ago; and I may add that although many persons will then rejoice to see it, no man more than I will myself. ---

My report on Saw Mills, mill rubbish and fish-ways - you will please find herewith. ---

With due respect,

Hon: Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

N. S.

Protecting Salmon in Lyons Creek.  
My dear Mr. Story.

Will you please find enclosed Bank cheque No: 0544, for the sum of Thirty dollars, for protecting the Spawning Salmon in Lyons Creek, during the past two years. - Will you acknowledge receipt, and send me report for last October and November - number of beds and fish you observed in creek during the spawning season. - With my kind regards. -

Yours sincerely,  
John W. Kerr

Y. O.,  
18. Dec: 1876. -

James Maxwell Esq  
Whitby, Ont.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find herewith, Bank cheque No: 0546, for twenty dollars, being for services rendered last October and November, in protecting the Spawning Salmon in the Upper Range. - Please acknowledge receipt, and make for me a report, stating how many Salmon beds, and fish you observed therein and oblige  
Yours sincerely,  
John W. Kerr

John W. Kerr

Y. O.,  
18. Dec: 1876. -

James Maxwell Esq  
Maxwells Mill

Island Creek, P. O.



My dear Moon, 18. December 1876.

Will you please find herewith, Bank cheque No: 0542, for twenty dollars, payable to Joseph Black. - You are paying him keeping for me five dollars, which he owes still, as balance for fishing license for current year. - - -

No: 0545 Will you also please find Bank cheque No: 0545, payable to one Joseph Moon for the sum of Twenty dollars, for protecting the Island beach, during the Salmon spawning time. - Keep five dollars of this, for me for a like purpose for yourself. -

You can arrange with Black, and then get the cheques cashed in Montreal Bank - Toronto, acknowledge receipt. -

Yrs Sincerely, -  
 J. M. Colwell  
 Joseph Moon is by  
 Port Union, Y.O.

Monday, 18. Dec: 1876. -

On M. Sleights reconnoitering - C. J. Kerr. the Bay is all frozen over, - went out at 9.30. a.m. Came in at 3.30. p.m. Miles 8. - St. and sleigh \$2.00

Postages, 43.

My dear Sir,

18. December 1876.

Will you be pleased to find here-  
with Bank cheque No: 0541, dated 14. December  
1876, for the sum of Fifty dollars, made payable to  
you, per engagement - for protecting spawning  
salmon in Duffins Creek, last October, and November  
last. - Also please find herewith Bank cheque  
for thirty six dollars, No: 0543, of same date,  
payable to your son Wm. David Gordon for 24,  
nights watching done in October, and November  
last, at \$1.50 per night. - - -

Mr Bunting will likely cash these orders,  
please acknowledge receipt. -

Wishing you the Compliments of the  
approaching Christmas festival. -

Believe me Yours truly.

Wm. John Gordon Esq  
Duffins Creek

John W. Bunting  
Esq.

Wednesday 20, Dec 1876, & 21: Dec: 1876.

at S. Bridge and Queenston Heights expected  
to find Americans over fishing in Canadian Waters  
the ice was all jammed in on the hauling ground  
so that no person could haul. -

Constable Thomas Wynne went from S. Br.  
down with me to Queenston, saw Harry  
Sheppard and John Wadsworth, the latter paid  
license fee of 10. for 1876. - My fare 3.00 Horse  
and butte 3.00, Supper for two 50¢ dinner 40. -  
Sleigh home from station 2. - went out  
at 8. A. M., came 1. A. M. miles 110.

Mr.

4, December 1876.

I have the honor to report, that on the night of Friday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of November last, in N. bay, I grappled up a herring gill net: say about 75 yards, it was set near the end of <sup>old</sup> Hyles wharf and had about 100 herring and two fish alive and gilled in it at the time about 100 herring, and two pike alive and gilled in it at the time, this was about 9 o'clock, p.m. - about 11 o'clock p.m. same night, I found Lou X of Hamilton, an old offender, and Wm Prince Wapew of N. beach, in a boat the property of brogs, at the same place I had previously found, and grappled up the herring gill net, pike and herring above referred to.

In brogs's boat was a grapple net with weed on it, and a wash tub for putting the fish and net in I presume. - I had a lamp in my possession at the time, otherwise I could not distinguish them, and all this under Section 18: 2, of Section 18, of the Fisheries Act. - - -

I had the houses and premises of these (two) men afterwards searched, and took the boat the property of Lou X into custody, and about 300 yards of herring gill net, and 200 yards of pike gill net from Wm Prince Wapew, neither of these men having a licence to fish. -

The cases against them is adjourned until Saturday next, the 9<sup>th</sup> instant, at 10 o'clock a.m. - and as the gill net I found set in the Bay, is supposed to be a stolen net, I would like very much if its meets your approval to have some efficient members of the bar, here appointed by the Hon: Ministers of Justice because this illegal st. gill net fishing in N. bay, has to be stopped and put down with a firm hand, etc.

this net will be traced into the possession  
of Thomas Croft. -

I had plat: Thompson Boat builder, and  
my sons Edward, and Fred: Kerr with me  
when I made this seizure, and afterwards  
when I found Croft, and I spent there. -

With due respect

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Stationary 85 H

Telegraphs 1.15 H

Postage 1.00 H

Thursday. 4. January 1874. -

On the May, - at the Heights - to visit the  
spearing houses - Elmer A. Phelps - paid \$1. - Wm.  
Garr, paid \$1. - James Garr, paid \$1. - Jeremiah  
Hudson, paid \$1. - and Alice: Grayley - paid \$1.  
each, for the privilege of spearing pike and  
harp. through the ice - from 1<sup>st</sup> of January to  
the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March next. St & Leigh - went  
out at 10. A. M. Came in at 4. P. M. - Miles  
12 - \$2.00 &c. - - -



## ORDNANCE LANDS SALE, TORONTO.

### PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY

given that on TUESDAY, the 8th day of Sept.,  
next, at noon, will be sold at Toronto, by Mr. Orin  
Wardell, Auctioneer, the Annual Leases of the Re-  
serves on Lake Erie, at Pointe Pelee, containing about  
4,200 acres; Rondeau, containing about 500 acres;  
and Turkey Point, containing about 592 acres respec-  
tively, to be employed for the purpose of shooting  
and fishing, for the proper preservation of the game  
and the protection of the timber thereon.

These Leases to endure for a term of 21 years each,  
with power to the Department to resume possession,  
at any time, on giving one month's notice.

On condition that the just rights of all squatters  
and Indians shall be respected, and reserving - "all  
rights of fishery, or use and occupation of the  
shores in connection therewith, under authority of  
the Department of Marine and Fisheries."

The rent to be paid to this Department semi-an-  
nually in advance, and good and sufficient security to  
be tendered, at the sale, for payment. If sufficient,  
the sale to be renewed at the time and place of sale.

Further conditions, if considered necessary, will be  
declared at the time of sale.

Lessees to accept boundaries and quantities as  
shown on the Ordnance plans.

By order,

E. A. MEREDITH,

Deputy of the Minister of The Interior.

WILLIAM F. COFFIN,

Commissioner of Ordnance  
and Admiralty Lands.

Ottawa, 1st August, 1874.

180-td.

FISH DECREASING. - There can be  
no doubt whatever that the black bass  
is leaving us gradually but surely. The  
cause is plain. The dam at Caledonia  
is too high for the fish to jump, and  
no slides are placed there for them  
to ascend. On the other hand Paris  
dam is constructed so that the bass  
can, with sufficient depth of water,  
pass up the river, and we find this  
season larger numbers of this game fish  
are being taken in the upper reaches  
than here in Paris. We are thus in  
the position which, if some steps be  
not taken will before long leave us en-  
tirely minus the bass fishing. Do our  
local fisherman consider the question  
of sufficient importance to do anything  
towards making representations to the  
Minister of Fisheries about it?



Sir,

4. December 1876.

I have the honor to submit for your consideration and favourable decision the grievances of Mr John Law of Woodhouse a licensed fisherman, in Lake Erie, near Port Dover, whose fishing licensed limits the present Local Fishery Overseer there, Mr King - has threatens to dispossess him of, and give to another. . . .

The particulars you will please find set out in the letter of Mr James Riddell J. P., of Port Dover, herewith. . . .

I may add for your information of the Dept. that I consider no man a fisherman more worthy of your indulgence in this matter than Mr John Law is, not only because he has occupied the fishery now referred to, and established it as such by the flagrant - that Mr Riddell, for such a long period of years; but because of his honest, upright, manly and ready assistance in years gone by, when by his example and precept he did aid me materially in establishing the Fisheries Act there. . . . This was, when I was first honoured with a portion of the Lake Erie, division to preside over. . . . I may add that Mr John Law, is a farmer, - whose land fronts on the Lake. . . . With due respect, . . .

I have &amp;c

Hon Minister

John W. Ross

f f f

f f

Ottawa =

Sir,

4. January 1877. -

I have the honor to send you herewith, my account, and diary for the quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1876. - Also petty ex-  
penses, &c. - during the same period. -

To amount, and diary herewith, - 165.61.

Voucher No. 1.	John W. Kerr, Special duty.	97.15,
" " 2.	do. - Office Rent.	5.00,
" " 3.	do. - Postages, &c.	4.27,
" " 4.	do. - Telegraphs.	3.24,
" " 5.	do. - Stationery, &c.	2.25,
" " 6.	do. - Learning &c.	3.60,
" " 7.	Fred. Kerr, Boatman.	19.50,
" " 8.	Chas. J. Kerr - do.	27.00,
" " 9.	Id. Kerr - do.	10.00,
" " 10.	Stanton, & Granks, Survey	26.00,

Miles, 1757. -

Total \$364.12 1/2

All of which, is respectfully submitted, -

I Have &c. -

Respectfully,

John W. Kerr  
Ch. a.

Friday, 5. January 1877. -

On B. bay, and the Beach, Edward Frank,  
paid me \$1. for Spearing license, Getting up  
my returns for past year, went out at 9  
a. m. came in at 4. p. m. till 24. St. &  
\$2.00, E. Kerr - with me.

Sir,

6. January 1877.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
Cheque No. 129, for the sum of forty dollars.

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, as  
follows; for this current year: - License for 1877. - -

Mr. John Everett, - Bertie, in the County of Welland, to  
fish in the Niagara River, between the Gilmour Road  
in the Village of Fort Erie, and Deceus Mill, in the  
Township of Willoughby; for seine hauling, at the  
rate for the current year. "Please send me license", \$4.00.

With due respect,

I Have the,

John Kerr

J. Kerr.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister of  
Marine & Fisheries,  
Ottawa,

Saturday 6. January 1877.

Harry Boyant - paid me \$1. for Spearing  
license, -

Thursday, 11. January 1877. -

On Mr. Day giving out spearing licenses; and received  
from John Blain \$1. - John Wesley Blain \$1. - John Dwyer  
50¢. Andrew Brofs. \$1. Ramsay Wells. \$1. and Thomas La-  
mont \$1. - - went out at 9. a. m. came in at 3. p. m.  
Miles 16. - H. Sleigh - 2.50 - E. Kerr, with me. -

Ser.

23. Dec: 1876.

I have the honor to receive your letter of 21<sup>st</sup> instant, in reply to mine of the 15<sup>th</sup> instant, recommending that spearing for hals and pike be permitted in B. bay and Dundas Marsh, during the months of January, February and March, at the rate of  $\$3$ .— I am to enquire whether this is not an advance of the usual rate which was supposed to be  $\$1$ . for the season. . . .

In reply, I have the honor to report that it is in advance  $\$2$ , beyond the usual rate of  $\$1$ , "which I consider too small", heretofore charged; but old spearing fishermen, will have no objection to pay it, provided starting spearing, from the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, in each year is included in this  $\$3$ ,— amount, for all the season. . . .

And this amount is not too high for the season, when it is taken into account, that some boys a good speares, in clear water through the ice in B. bay, has frequently speared as high as four dollars, worth of pike and hals, (average) per day, for several days. . . Besides to fix it, at this rate will keep off boys, who are always an injury, and a nuisance to all good fishermen. . .

In connection with this I strongly recommend that you will be pleased henceforth to abolish all pike spearing in Dundas Marsh, and B. bay during spring in each year. . . .

The foregoing being alone the fixed and established spearing season in Dundas Marsh, and B. bay. Annually. —



I may mention here for your information, that out of the fifty-one persons who paid off 1. for the herring spearing last November and the early part of this month: not more than (20) I expect were successful, and pike spearing through the ice. --

Quite a number of persons were also successful in spearing, and a number of saw nets, and pike will I am sure apply. ---

A good many herring are always to be seen in deep water, through the ice, during each season.

The matter with the foregoing remarks is altogether submitted for your own approval. - And with due respect,

I Have the,

Respectful Service,

Y. O.

Hon. Minister,

H. T. H.

Ottawa,

Sir

4, December 1846. -

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Monday night last, the 27<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> 5 about 9 o'clock. p.m. - I captured a row boat, with four oars, and a paddle, the property of William Mafie, on N. bay, beside Stalley's boat house, in the City of Hamilton. - - -

The particulars are as follows; I was on the Bay in company with my son Charles John Kerr, and another person, when we observed the said boat, with three persons in it, who! on observing us, ran away. - - On my examining the boat, I found four herring, recently caught in a sterling gill net, under stern seat, and a quantity of scales of sterling there. - - Also a sterling spear, whilst on the beach beside a log, close to the boat, I found a three hook grapple with about eleven yards of rope net and recently used attached thereto besides two fresh sterling; and a little further from these, and where one of the persons, I observed in the boat jumped a net, and board fence, I found 24 sterling, more! - and about ten yards of sterling gill net, all of which, I took instantly into my possession. - - -

While on my way to Mr. Thompson's boat house, towing Mafie's boat thereto, Wm. Mafie, and John Gray - roused up, and in a domineering manner, demanded his boat, which I refused to give up, being as I said caught in the Act of a contravention of the fishing Act, telling him the pains and penalties of the law, if he laid hands on it. - - -

At Thompson's boat house, a crowd of about one dozen of Mafie's friends assembled, but no attempt was made to

by him to regain or take the boat from me. - It was put in Thompsons boat House. - - -

I heard that night, and since that Isaac Blows, "an old offender" - Hector Mafie a brother of William Mafie's, and John Gray - were the persons who used the boat in the illegal sterring gill net fishing referred to. - - -

On Thursday last, I brought this boat and Case before James Cahill Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. - W<sup>m</sup> Mafie being present, there, and on the evidence (mine) of the facts set forth herein - the boat, the Oars, paddle, the spear, grapple, the herring, and gill net, were confiscated to Her Majesty - the Queen. - - -

With regard to Mafie<sup>s</sup>, Isaac Blow, who owns the grapple, John Gray and Hector Mafie - the supposed Violators of the Fisheries Act, in this boat, and gill net fishing Case, it was to engage counsel examine each of them separately for this offence that I telegraphed you, on Tuesday last, besides having the aid of said Solicitor in the Case ag<sup>t</sup> Thomas Croft, and W<sup>m</sup> Pinner Wapew the particulars of which you will please find in my report which accompanies this.

With due respect

I remain Sir,

Yours truly

J. A.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,  
F. F. F.

P.S. - W<sup>m</sup> Mafie. Keeps a Boat House, and 24 Boats to hire out. -

Yrs J. W. Kerr

J. A.

2.1

1870.

With reference to your letter of instructions to me, dated the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, regarding the Saugeen River; Thus;  
3<sup>rd</sup> "What mill dams exist thereon, and their state, as to fishways, and if any injury is done, and where by saw dust, or mill rubbish. . . .

In reply, I beg most respectfully to report, what I saw, during my enquiries, and that came under my personal observation, and also what was communicated to me by reliable persons, most deeply interested in keeping out saw dust, and mill rubbish, the bane and destruction of the choice fish in the Saugeen River, and its tributaries. . . .

On the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, I saw, and inspected Mr. John Winney's mill dam, situated above the Bridge on the Main Road leading from Southampton to Owen Sound; say! about two miles from the mouth of the River, at Southampton. . . .

This dam is about 130 yards wide from pier to pier, and was built this year. . . There is no fishway in this dam, and being about 10 or 12 ft. high, with an apron about 18 feet, no fish can ascend it in its present position, straight as it is across from bank to bank, fish cannot get over the dam. . . .

At each side of the River, at the end of the dam there is a substantial abutment or pier, made of square timbers, and which is filled in, with stone; These abutments are higher than the dam. . . There is a Flour Mill, a Woollen factory, and saw mill, below this dam, on the west side of the River, the saw mill however, is not in operation. The Banks of the Saugeen River here ranges as high as 120 ft. . . This dam cost Mr. John Winney \$4,000, for constructing it. It should have 3 fishways in it. . . .



Mr. John Macfarlane, of Dunblane, has a saw mill on Snake Creek, in the township of Edwards, near the Robert, was sawing when I visited the mill, and the saw dust from the mill was floating on the water, down stream. . . . The water from this creek empties into the Sauguen River, about 6 miles below Macfarlane's mill; Macfarlane's saw mill is so constructed that he can easily keep out the saw dust. . . .

At the junction of Snake Creek, with the Sauguen River, Mr. Woulbelle, has a steam flour mill. . . . Above Macfarlane's, on Snake Creek, Mr. George Shields has a saw mill, on the 12<sup>th</sup> concession of Edwards, and the saw dust from it, comes down Snake Creek, floating on, and in to the waters of the Sauguen River, <sup>at Woulbelle's,</sup> . . .

There is no dam on the Sauguen River, between Donnelly's dam, and Walkerton. . . .

At Paisley, Mr. Sinclair, and Blackburn, own a <sup>steam</sup> saw mill, and shingle factory, on the bank of the Sauguen River; beside the mill several tons of saw dust, mill rubbish, and shingle buff was seen by me on the bank, and in the waters of the River, where it was wheeled out, and left, so that a good freshet at any time carries it . . .

to this saw mill, at the head of a small island. Slabs of shingles, and saw dust is heaped up, in the waters of the Sauguen, and against a boom placed there: . . .

While the bottom of the River, is filled up, with a large supply of <sup>illegal</sup> such objectionable mill rubbish. . . .

It was near the lower end of this boom, where the rapid and eddy is, that Mr. J. Murdoch and his son, pointed out to me as the place, they, and a great many other people observed the fish supposed to be salmon, as already reported to you, by me. . . .

Wood Creek, enters the Sauguen River at Paisley, and at the mouth of it, there is a bar . . .

and saw mill, and Shingle Factory, owned by Mr. Duncan Fisher, - the saw dust was floating down the Saugeen River, as seen by me, when I was there, and came from Mr. Fisher's saw mill. There is no fishway on this dam. --- Messrs. Mackay and Young, of Paisley, have Messrs. Sinclair and Blackburn's Steam Saw Mill, leased for five years. ---

Mr. Blackburn, who came up to me on the main street in Paisley, told me his wish, was, that Mackay and Young, of Paisley, should keep out the saw dust, and mill rubbish, &c. &c., from the Saugeen River. --- Willow Creek, also joins the Saugeen River here, - and it has speckled trout, in it still; And at the boundary of the Village on lot No. 18, Con. B. Elderslie, there is a pure, heavy, clear stream of water - a feeder to the Saugeen River, with plenty of speckled trout, in the upper waters of it, to this day, above Boardman's Mill, so I was told.

At Walkerton, I next visited Messrs. J. Hoxons and Mr. Saw Mill, - the saw dust, &c., is all taken from the saw mill by machinery - runners that carry it up into a hopper, under which a cart is placed, and by pulling a string the cart is filled instantly and taken away. --- Every precaution is used, and at this saw mill, which is very extensive: to keep the saw dust, and mill rubbish, out of the Saugeen River; - and <sup>which</sup> is so very creditable on the part of those proprietors, that it affords me great pleasure to report so, in their favour, as most praiseworthy. ---

In the dam above Hoxons saw mill, plainly back, and door, &c., factory - there is what was intended for a fishway. - It is only about four feet wide, has 6 inside pieces properly placed within two square planks, one on each side, and these are

about 20 feet long, but no fish can get up this, because the lower end is out of the water; and the upper end was stopped by a board placed in front, so as to raise the water in the main stream, and turn it into the mill race. . . . This dam should have two efficient fishways in it, to be kept at all times in working order, during spring and fall. . . . The dam is about 100 yards wide and the water is available running over it, except where boards are placed across  $\frac{1}{2}$  the dam, to turn the water into the mill race. . . . The Mr. J. H. Brown complained and told me that the bleeding - "On the Otter Creek" - says about 3 miles above Walkerton - allows all his saw dust, Fe. Fe. to flow into the creek, thence into the Saugeen River from his saw mill - house about 300. Waggon loads have come down from Stalls Mill on the main branch of the Saugeen River, and from Clendinning's mill, - on the Otter Creek, recently since the freshets in September last and mixed up so bad with these logs in the mill pond that it was after great difficulty, and much manual labour, they got the saw dust and mill rubbish away from the logs. - Besides the saw dust, and mill rubbish, including slabs, edgings Fe, coming down stream continually damaging and polluting the waters; farmers throw in brush, and thereby damaging the fish in the River Saugeen, to a much greater extent than I can here in my limited report describe it to you.

I called on Mr. R. B. Clement, a farmer, he lives on lot 52, on the Saugeen River, he had a Bar: over the River by which to cross from one side of the River to the other - back to, and from his farm; slabs, sidings, mill rubbish, and saw dust came down the River, since September last, and took down one bent and pier of his Bridge and swept it away, and I found when I was there that from this Bar: up the River, for upwards of 120 yards, that the River Saugeen, at this place is so filled

high banks, on each side of it, was completely jammed up, with slabs, sidings, saw dust, and mill rubbish, of all kinds and about 300 yards further up, a like quantity of this mill rubbish was jamming up the river. . . . This injurious stuff to fishes, and annoyance to the public came principally from Still Mill, owned at present by the Merchants Bank, Walkerton, but leased to Messrs. James Brocklebank and John Laumont, the present occupants, as they are. . . .

I next visited the mill, known as it is by the name of Still Mill and I <sup>saw</sup> saw things as bad as the dam is here about the mill: . . . Sawmill going on and saw dust was pouring into the river, and no one was doing to prevent it, sidings, slabs, and mill rubbish floating up in the river, and floating away down the river, and adding to the two blocked up places, already referred to above. John Laumont one of the partners told me, he had a bridge in front of the mill on the river, but that the late freshet swept it away. I saw forwarded nothing but a heavy piece of mill stuff. . . .

This mill is now called Maple Hill Mill. The dam above the mill over the Saugeen River, is about 60 yards wide, and is 7 feet high, above the apron and the apron, from the dam, down stream, is 18 feet long and the full width across, and it has no fish way. The dam is under contract for repairing at present and Mr. Laumont told me arrangements were entered into to put in a new fish way; a large and substantial fish way, of the best, and most modern approved plan is absolutely required to be placed in this dam without any delay. . . . The saw dust here is as far as I know the B. Clements saw, was very good, the



...tion ... to it by ... ..  
 several people again and again in ... of the pro-  
 tection of the fish, and the River, the bottom of which is  
 filled up in many places with slabs, ... ..  
 ing, sidings, and saw dust.

... of the Village of ... .. the ... ..  
 River ... the ... .. from ... .. to ... ..  
 within view of the Bridge, whereon I stopped to make this  
 note in my book, I observed pieces of edging, saw dust, and  
 sidings floating down the stream, the Bridge over the ... ..  
 River here, is about 120 yards long, and on the ... .. within  
 view, slabs, edgings, sidings and ... .. saw dust  
 was seen by me in many places blocking up the stream;  
 and in heaps, where collected on the bank by persons,  
 and for fire wood, I perceived.

I understood, afterwards that it is between Maple Hill,  
 and Stannover, that the Maitland, or the South Branch,  
 of the Saugan River, from Mt. Forest, enters the main  
 branch; but I may here remark that I never gained any  
 information, about Salmon after I left Maple Hill.

On a small spring creek, at Stannover, there is a ... ..  
 a shingle mill, and Ashery - the stream is very trifling, but  
 the water from it, enters the main branch of the Saugan  
 River there. ... .. Mr. Henry Proctor Adams, owns a saw mill, at  
 Stannover, - he has a Horse and Cart, taking the saw dust away  
 from the mill, but some (saw dust) runs into the water: -  
 Above the Road, east of the lumber yard, 200 yards up, is the  
 dam, with an apron 18 ft long, the lower end is at least,  
 3 ft high, above the water, that flows to the stream below,  
 the dam. - The dam is fully 10 ft high, and there is hun-  
 dreds of loads of mill rubbish of ancient appearances  
 about 200 yards in length, and at both sides of the  
 first Bridge, north from the lumber yard.

At second bridge - piles of mill rubbish are again  
 heaped up in the stream, this being above Mr. Adams, mill

which comes down from the next, and the other mills on the River Saugeen, and other streams, (branches) above Stammers:-- And then again, at the third Bridge, like rubbish is heaped up in the River, which evidently came down also, from the upper saw mills; there is no fish-way on the dam, above Mr Adams mill. . . .

Mr Wm Stocktel owns a saw mill, on Jones, Creek,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles above Stammers village. Saw dust, slabs, sidings, edgings, and mill rubbish, enters the Saugeen River, from this mill in abundance. . . .

Mr John Gensons saw mill at Allan Park, P. office, in the Township of Kentuck, - lots Nos 37, and 38, Con: 1<sup>st</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Road, allows all his saw dust slabs, edgings, and sidings to pass into the Saugeen River. He was sawing when I was there, I saw it, myself. . . . The saw mill is on Kemp Creek, just where it joins the main Saugeen River, at the end of the lumber yard. . . . There is a dam above the mill, it is 8' ft high, with an 18' ft apron, but no fish way. . . . Above Mr Genson's saw mill, but on the main branch there was another saw mill, but the dam was carried away about 3. weeks previously. . . . It was owned by Mr George Stone; It is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles up the stream, on lot No: 41, in the 4<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Road. . . .

Then the Rocky Saugeen, enters the Big Saugeen at Daglish's mill - on the 3<sup>rd</sup> concession Kentuck. . . .

About 3. miles, north west from Durham, on the Rocky Saugeen, Mr John Branson, has a saw mill and the saw dust, and mill rubbish passes into the stream, which afterwards, flows into the main Saugeen River, as in the previous sentences but with. . . . On the Rocky Saugeen above

Mr John Craufords, mill - <sup>also</sup> ~~also~~ <sup>also</sup> I agreed, ~~and~~  
below have a saw mill, and they allow the saw  
dust to enter the stream. . . .

In Durham Village we have the Big Saugan,  
Mr Mackenzie owns two saw mills there but at  
present there is only one then running. - I have much  
pleasure, however, in reporting for your information  
that the greatest care has been taken by him, and his em-  
ployees to keep every particle of saw dust and mill  
rubbish, out of the Creek, and in which they have most  
satisfactorily succeeded. - From Durham to the town  
of Walston is 14 miles by road by the main Road  
I should suppose it to be 10 miles. . . .

From Durham to Mt Forrest, is 17 miles, I  
passed over, the Kemp Creek; the Little Saugan, and the  
Beatty Saugan, in going there; The Mainland or  
South Branch of the Saugan is a lively stream at  
Mount Forrest, south of the town. - Kemp Creek,  
is near Durham; - The Little Saugan is between Kemp  
Creek, and Orchard Mills; at which place is Beatty's  
Saugan. - Mr James Wodds lives on 2<sup>d</sup> Division of  
lot No 16, in the 1<sup>st</sup> concession of Egremont, County of  
Grey. - He has a saw mill, on the Creek, at  
Orchard Mills; I found no saw dust in the Creek,  
at Mr Wodds Mill. -

Above Mr Wodds Mill on the Beatty Saugan,  
at Holstein Village - Mr Petri, owns a saw mill, -  
and below Mr Wodds mill - about 1 1/2 miles - Mr  
Godfrey, owns a saw mill, - a man named Ker-  
by from Mt Forrest rents it, - the saw dust, is allowed  
to enter the waters of this branch, from these saw mill.

The Beatty Saugan, rises in the township of Egre-  
mont, from two sources, ~~at~~ wells or springs, and unite  
into one stream, before it arrives at Beatty's farm,  
from whom it derives its name. - The Beatty

Saugeen, The Little Saugeen, and the Maithand, or South Branch, of the Saugeen, all join and unite about Pleistett in the Township of Hornumby, about 5 miles below Ayrton. - After uniting, the South enters the main branch, near the Village of Stannover, as already set forth in this report. - - -

I visited Mr David Yeomans saw mill at Mt Forrest, but the saw dust is not permitted to enter the Maithand or South Branch, and this was the only saw mill that I visited on this branch of the Saugeen River, having to return home, and issue licenses for spearing herring in Dundas Marsh, and N. bay. - -

Mrs John Martin & Son, have a saw mill on this stream, and a fishway in his dam, and does not allow the saw dust to enter the stream. - - -

Mr John Reid, next down stream, has a saw mill - he does not permit the saw dust, to enter the stream. - - Mr John Dickson, has a saw mill, and keeps out the saw dust. - -

Then comes Mr Thomas Robertson saw mill, at Ayrton. - And below this is Mr Winklers Mill. - - Then there is a saw mill, on a small creek, 3<sup>rd</sup> Conception of Hornumby, owned by Mr Colin Blythe, all of these smaller creeks unite, join the main branch as already stated. \*See above\* \*Come on here\* -

On Wind Creek, besides Duncan Fishers saw mill, at Paisley, Thomas Pinkerton of Pinkerton - Charles Michel, of Michels siding, Wm. G. and Bruce Railway. - 1 1/4 miles, above Pinkerton village, - and Wm Ellis, above that, his post office is, Dunkeld - all these saw mill owners allow



the saw dust to fall into the ~~waters~~ of Mud Creek, which enters the Saugeen River, at Paisley, as already reported to you above. . . .

The foregoing contains a true and elaborate account of the Saugeen River, and its branches, as called for by your instructions to me, under the head No: 3. -

In conclusion, I have no hesitation in recommending that prompt measures should be at once taken by the department - Ottawa, to keep out, the saw dust, and mill rubbish, from the Saugeen River, and its valuable feeders, and branches, and if necessary impose some fines, so as to enforce the law in this behalf. . . .

I also recommend that fishways of the best, and latest model, approved of by the department, under the supervision of an efficient fishery officer, be constructed in all the dams of the main branch of the Saugeen River, and its valuable tributaries; say; between Southampton, and Durham - Maple Hill, and ~~the~~ Forrest, - Walkerton and Midway, "on the Otter Creek" - Paisley, and Dunkeld - "Mud Creek" - and from Haglish's Mill, - to the source of the Rockey Saugeen, which is about 3 miles north east from the village of Durham, or on any portion, or part of these valuable streams, with extensive saw mills, and mill dams, erected thereon, now in operation, that the department in its wisdom, and better judgement, may now deem advisable to meet the requirements of the public, and for the public good. . . .

Then this being in operation towards completion, I strongly recommend the stocking of the Saugeen River, &c. as per my reports in reply to Nos: 1. and 2. - of your letter to me, of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, already made to you, and then protection, prompt

and complete - should follow. -- all this, there is great necessity for, - in order that full protection as under the requirements of the Fisheries Act, may be carried into effect accordingly. --

I have to apologize for making such a lengthy report under the head of No: 3 - and with due respect,

I have &c.

Hon. Ministers,  
& & &  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr,  
S.O.

Monday, 15, January 1877. -

At Toronto, and Toronto Island - to get my returns, and inspecting Black House bay - and as - certain if nets were set under the ice. -- went out at 8, a.m. came in at 6, p.m., miles 50, Ry &c. 3.30, dinner, tea and bed, \$1.00 &

Tuesday, 16, January 1877. -

At Toronto, and Home - all regular, went out at 8.30, a.m., came in at 4, p.m., miles 46, Railway fare \$1.30, Breakfast and dinner 50<sup>¢</sup>, Ride home to Dawson 20. --

Wednesday, 17, January 1877. --

On Bay, and M. beach - found 23 Boxes out on the ice, - Henry Waterbury, Robert Wright, and John Hagle paid me \$1. each, - went out at 8.30, a.m., came in at 4, p.m. - miles 26. 44 Sleigh 2.50<sup>¢</sup>, & Kerr - with

Sir,

18. January 1877.

Will you be pleased to permit Messrs Samuel  
Loye, and G. H. Corey - to spear fish in Lake St. Clair  
as per letter herewith to me on the subject, from  
the Commissioner - and Oblige.

Yours Respectfully  
John W. Kerr  
J. W.

Thomas Bartier Esq  
L. Guardian.  
Baptiste Creek.

Sir,

Ottawa, 11. January 1877. -

In answer to your note of 8<sup>th</sup> instant, I  
am to inform you that on application to Mr. Thos.  
Bartier, local fishery guardian at the mouth of  
the River Thames, G. H. Corey, he will obtain from  
him a license to spear on Lake St. Clair. -

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,  
W. J. Whitaker

J. W. Kerr Esq  
Hamilton.

For the Hon. M. of A. & F. -

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1877. -

On M. day, John Bates, W. Bates and Duncan McGillivray  
paid me \$1. each for spearing licenses - there across,  
and saw Tom Jones, and Hector Secord, - up to Wm  
Loye - got dinner there. Fred<sup>12</sup> Kerr with me - went out  
at 9. A. M. came in at 3. P. M. - Miles 24. - St. and Sleep.  
# 4 2.00 - dinner 50, Fred<sup>12</sup> Kerr - with me. - John Dynes - also  
paid me \$1. -

Sir

17, January 1877.

In answer to your letter, "Is it true that the ponds on Toronto Island, are netted constantly, and every small fish killed?"

In reply, I have the honor to inform you that there is no truth whatever in such a report, and whoever the person is, who made such false report to you, should be taken up, and be made an example of, for slandering the Licensed fishermen of Toronto Island.

The Gun Club - or sportsman's Society Toronto - drew my attention to this same matter about three years ago, and in order to test the truth of the assertion, and satisfy myself thereon, I went on the Island then, and examined it, from one end to the other, and I have done so each year since during net fishing; and I did not find a particle of truth in the assertion.

No net fishing of any kind has been carried on in the ponds or bays of Toronto Island, except at the head, which is next the Cut, since last May. In Black House bay, and Maskinonge point, suckers, and pike are hauled for, every spring, but there is no small fish killed.

The whole bay, ponds, and inlets, have always been thrown open for amusement to the citizens of Toronto, and for angling purposes by the licensed fishermen there.

I may here state, that during the month of June, in each year, since I first discovered and reported the matter to you, large quantities of the so-called shad; "Herring I believe they are" - die, by millions, and are to be seen dead lying on the Lake shore of Ontario, but this is not



caused by the fishermen of Toronto Island, nor any other locality on the Lake, but it is the result of some other unknown cause, to be still discovered...

Whoever the individual is, who sent you this false statement. I may now say, in answer, that it is malicious, and has no foundation in fact...

You may rely upon what I say: - And with due respect. -

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister.

Joh. W. Kerr.

&c. &c. &c.

J. W. Kerr.

Ottawa.

P.S. - The Toronto Island fishermen are a great nuisance to fish and fisheries there.

J. W. Kerr.

Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> January 1877. -

On the Bay, at the Heights, David Everett, paid me \$1. B. Gaulkner \$1. - and Billy Hamilton, 50¢ - examined and found other out spearing whose names I took down - went out at 9. a.m. came in 4. p.m. Miles 20, St & Slough #2. Edmund Kerr with me. -

Sunday, 28. January 1877. -

On N. Bay, - to see if people were out spearing, and breaking the Sabbath - found all regular. Went out at 9. a.m. came in at 2. p.m. Miles 20, St & Slough. #2 - Chas. J. Kerr, with me. - -

- The St. Catharines Journal says: The petitions from the citizens of Clifton and the Township of Stamford and Thorold in regard to the bad condition of the St. Catharines, Thorold and Niagara Falls Macadamized Road have met with favorable consideration by Judge McDonald. He has issued an injunction restraining the Road Company from taking tolls until the road is in a proper state of repair, and it is quite time this was done, for the road to Clinton is in a horrible bad state, and in the neighborhood of Thorold almost impassable. According to the law, if the road is not put in good condition in six months it can be taken possession of by the Township through which it passes.

Gilsonburg, -

Mr Kerr,

January 8, 1877. -

Dear Sir,

I have been informed that you are the Government inspector of Fisheries, I wish to make some statements to you in regard to fisheries in this County of Oxford, and Mayhew - we would have plenty of fish up here, if these men that have saw mills on the River could be made to put in a fish slide, and stop them from letting the saw dust in the River, the dust kills the fish, that is in the River, and the people are all for having these dams open. There is five saw mills, and they all let their saw dust go into the River, I hope spent a good deal of time and money trying to find out how to get at them, - if you will be kind enough to inform me, or send me word, when you will come I will meet you at the station, and take you around to these mills, so you can see for yourself.

Yours Truly, -

Welson Catman,  
Gilsonburg. Ont.

Wednesday, 31, January 1877. -

On Dundas Marsh, and N. bay, Lewis Mills paid \$1. - Wm Hamilton, 50. on a/c Wesley Kirkendall 75. on a/c, Mathew Carroll \$1. - for license to spear, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 5. p.m. killed 20 H&S. 2.00. - Fred. Kerr with me. -

Dunelm, Woodstock P.O.

John W. Kerr Esq.

22, October 1876. -

My dear Sir,

Several parties have reported to me that on account of the obstructions in the shape of dams &c, fish are prevented from getting up the Otter Creek, and have requested me as their representative in Parliament to get the matter put right. -

Would you be good enough to drop me a line to say if you have the superintendence of this stream in this section, and if so could you come up to see the state of the break for yourself, I will be glad to drive you out, if you can give me a few days notice.

Yours truly,

Geo. A. Skinner,

M.P. -

My dear Sir,

Your letter and postal card, received respecting the mill dams, fishways &c, and saw dust in the Otter Creek. I have submitted the same to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister of Marine and Fisheries - Ottawa, - and I have recommended the same for his consideration and with my kind regards - Yrs truly,

John W. Kerr

J. A.

M<sup>r</sup>. John Catman,  
Wilsonburg - Ont<sup>o</sup>.

31, January 1877. -

Note paper 25<sup>¢</sup> and envelopes 10<sup>¢</sup> -Post office box rent 1.50<sup>¢</sup>" " Stamps, 25<sup>¢</sup>

Express charges - paid 1.25<sup>¢</sup> on stuffed ducks sent to Mr. W. F. Whitcher Esq. C. of Fisheries - Ottawa,

ser.

31<sup>st</sup> January 1877. -

I have the honor to submit for your consideration - two letters setting forth the illegal position of the dams in the Otter Creek; - which empties itself into Lake Erie - at Port Huron. - - -

"The first letter is from Col. J. A. Skinner, M. G.,  
and the other is from Mr. Nelson Catman - Wilsonsburg.

As times are very dull up here at present,  
I will if you instruct me go up there, inspect  
the saw mills, and mill dams, and report to you. . .

With due respect,

Hon. Ministe  
H. H. H.  
H. H. H.

I Have the  
 Submitter  
 D. a

✓ February 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday - 1877. - - -

On M. bay - near the Beach, Charles Mason,  
paid \$1. for spearing licence. - Charles J. Starr, was  
with me. - - 9. a.m. to the city first, and returned  
by city. - came in at 4.30. p.m. Miles 20. 844  
2.00 -

o Saturday 3. February 1877. - - -

On Ms. Steights, and on the May - Charles Cripps paid  
#1. and Joseph Baloue - paid #1. for license to spear,  
went out at 10. A. M. came in 3.30, P. on May 16,  
\$44.81, 2.00<sup>4</sup> - C. J. Ken with me. -

Monday, 5. February 1877. -

On the Staights - gave Lewis Mills - his license, went out at 12. Noon - home in the evening at 5. p. m. Miles 10.  
Set Staigh<sup>th</sup> 1.50.



Tuesday 6. Feb: 1877.

- ✓ On M. bay - at the Heights, and Jas. Gibbons - thence down to M. beach - Charles Smith paid me \$1. and John Reid, paid me \$1. - went out at 9.30. a.m. came in at 5.30. p.m. miles 26. dinners 60<sup>¢</sup>, \$44 sleigh 2.50<sup>¢</sup>.

Thursday, 8. Feb: 1877. -

- ✓ On M. beach - to see Ben. Goulds - and Dan McGwynne - about the Scisces caught on 2<sup>d</sup> instant; - young shad, and a small salmon - Tom Jones paid me \$1. for spearing house - went out at 2. p.m. came in at 6. p.m. - miles 20. \$44 sleigh 2.00. -

Saturday, 10. February 1877. -

- ✓ At Toronto, and the Island, - saw the deputy chief Mr Macpherson - and arranged with him - to get detectives Sheehan and Reid - at 10. a.m. Sunday - for active duty, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 5. p.m. miles 54, Railway fare 1.30<sup>¢</sup>, - dinner tea and bed 75<sup>¢</sup>, \$44 sleigh 2.50<sup>¢</sup>

Sunday 11. Feb: 1877. -

- ✓ On Ashbridges bay, and Toronto, found several persons fishing, and breaking the Sabbath, and the Fisheries Act. - Detectives Sheehan, and Reid were with me - see my report of 13<sup>th</sup> instant, went out at 8. a.m. came in at 2. p.m. miles 15 - Walked all day. - Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed \$1. - - -

Monday, 12. Feb: 1877. -

- ✓ On Toronto Bay, - to the Police Court there complained of the persons found fishing - and gave the names to Mr. Hudell to get out the summonses - went out at 8.30. a.m. - thence to Hamilton - Ry fare 1.30. Breakfast and dinner 75<sup>¢</sup> miles 60.

Sir,

8. February 1877. -

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> inst. calling on me - "to explain, supply particulars, and state if you secured and kept in spirits, any specimens to send here." - For - "The News - papers state that amongst a large quantity of scisces and young shad taken in a single haul of the seine at Pt. Beach, a young Salmon was caught." - "Also explain how it is that these shad fry are thus illegally killed" -

In reply, I have the honor in the just place to send you the article itself, by which you will at once find there was no seine haul made: thus: -

This article was just put in the News - paper here of last Saturday by Mr Harris - Manager, at the instance of Ben: Goulds, a fisherman on Pt. Beach; - The particulars are as follows; On Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February instant Ben: Goulds, and Dan McFoyne, fishermen, residents on Pt. Beach (jointly together) fished up their scisco gill nets in Lake Ontario, at a distance of about 14 miles from Pt. Beach about midway from Menard and Grimsby, and about 8 miles out in the Lake from the nearest land. -

In fishing up Dan: McFoyne, observed amongst the scisces and sterlings - a small salmon, about 6 inches long, and about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a pound weight, the belly out of it, gilled in the net - it was dead, otherwise it would have been liberated. - -

The joint take in these scisco gill net on that occasion, was 5500 scisces, 2000, gaspereaux, and this small salmon. - Gaspereaux is an inferior salt water Sterling. - It was first discovered in L. Ontario, Toronto Island - and reported upon by me, to you, on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 1873. - and more frequently to you many times since by me. -

These fishes are now found in millions in Lake Ontario, and in N. bay, - all the year round, and the fishermen consider themselves well paid - if they can get 40 Cents, per 100, for them. - I sent a sample to Mr. White - the Commissioner of Fisheries. Ottawa, about 3 years ago. - - -

I beg to explain, that I am not aware of Shad being illegally killed in Lake Ontario, nor in any part of my division, - and without having any wish to detract from the great abilities of Mr. Seth Green, who has the News-Paper wide reputation, for populating Lake Ontario - if News-Papers are to be relied upon, with this self same inferior herring, gaspereaux, or young shad: I must candidly say; and fearlessly say, at that; that there is no credit due to Mr. Seth Green, as yet, according to my certain knowledge, so far as shad in Lake Ontario is concerned, and I believe I do know the fish resources of all kinds in my own division in Lake Ontario to perfection. - - -

I heard it said, that the Gaspereaux are a species of the Sterring Pike, known in a bay of that name, about Newfoundland, and from which these fishes derive their name. - - -

I may further explain - that no seine hauling of any kind is, nor can at present be carried on, at N. beach, in Lake Ontario; the ice is heaped up several feet high, resting on the bottom of Lake, and extends from the shore outwards about 200 yards, and over which the fishermen are obliged to cut a Road way, to run out, and launch their boats, and mind you only the weather happens to be just now mild, they could not set out nor fish up, their scissos gill nets in Lake Ontario; I may also explain for your information that N. bay is also well supplied with these gaspereaux, and on which the Pike prey

extensively. --

I may here tell you something that happened in the N. canal - during the summer of 1875...

"A raft was being taken from N. bay, to Lake Ontario, thro' the canal, when coming on a shoal of these fish suddenly in the canal, 340, of them jumped up out of the water on to the raft, and were secured by the Raftsmen. --

With the foregoing particulars, and explanation. --

I Have &c. &c.  
Hon: Minister, &c. &c.  
Ottawa,  
John W. Kerr  
D. Overseer.

Thursday, 15. February 1877.

On N. bay, taking down the names of persons owning fish houses fishing in N. bay - we all 96 or 97 - went out at 9, a.m. came in at 5.50, p.m. - Miles 28, H. and sleigh, \$2.50 & dinner 50¢. Fred's Lockman paid me \$1. Billy Hamilton 50¢, Edward Housago \$1, on acct of license to spear. --

SOME TWO YEARS ago Mr. Seth Green placed a number of recently hatched shad in Lake Ontario for the purpose of trying whether these salt water denizens would live and thrive in fresh water at such a distance from the sea. A great many young shad have been cast up dead along the shores of the lake, but a gentleman who gives his experiences on a fishing tour seems to cast doubt on the belief that nearly all of Mr. Seth Green's fish had died off. He says:—"A fishing excursion to Olcott, eighteen miles easterly from the mouth of the Niagara River, on the shore of the lake, led me to considerable rowing in Olcott harbour and in the lake beyond. The attention of our whole party was almost diverted from the pursuit of bass, herring, and perch by the sight of a host of little fish skimming and skipping about the surface of the water in an erratic fashion. We observed them wherever we went, and in such numbers that they were easily taken with a small landing-net. In size they averaged from four to five inches in length, and some were larger. I examined them carefully, and was well satisfied, as were those with me, that they were young shad. They all had the shape of the shad, and the unmistakable dark hue on the back, beautifully shaded off to silver on the sides. Now, what cause brought such multitudes of these young shad to the surface? It is to be especially noted that there were none floating dead or powerless on the water, nor were any found on the shore; all of them seemed to be in full possession of their powers, but impelled from some unknown cause to dart hither and thither on the surface."

#### ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO LEVY TRIBUTE.

Alderman Waddell and Mr. Carpenter having failed in securing all the avenues to the city, and thereby levying tribute on all who enter or depart, have got up another scheme to effect the same end. Under the peculiar Act which enables them to assume and make toll leviable, without the consent of the rate-payers or travellers, they have notified the Council of the township of Barton that they are about to take possession of a piece of road leading into the city by the way of the Albion Mills, and running along the brow of the mountain. Mr. Kerr, the Fishery Inspector, is the ostensible operator of this little game. But the Council of Barton, are, I am informed, aroused. And the object of all these speculators to levy tribute will certainly be defeated by a meeting of the Council called together by the Reeve, Mr. Loury.

The London Free Press says:—"In the case of W. D. McGlochon, of this city, v. J. J. Mason, of Hamilton, in the \$20,000 libel suit, judgment has been entered, we are informed, against the defendant. This case arose out of an article published in the Craftsman some time ago by the defendant in regard to the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Free Masons of Ontario."



Annual Report for year 1876. -

Hamilton, 23. January 1876.

Sir, - I have the honor to report that my active duties commenced this year, as early as the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 1876, when by your Orders, I proceeded to Collingwood, and Meaford, on the Georgian Bay, and with the aid and assistance of Mr. C. McFayden, Marriette, Owen Sound, - appointed by you - Mr. James Patton, and Geo. S. Miller - Local fishery Overseers of these Divisions, I fined several of the licensed fishermen there, for contraventions of the fisheries Act, committed by them during close season. - Not however, enforcing the law in any of the cases altho inflicting fines, leaving all the cases to the Merciful consideration of the Hon. the Minister - to whose better Judgement, and final decision, I sent Copies of all the proceedings. -

As regards my own Division proper - Bay, Burlington Bay, for instance, I was obliged during the month of May last, to seize, and confiscate about 1500 yards of Pike gill nets, - found set in prohibited portions of B. Bay, set there by a party of unlicensed fishermen, who were fined for committing the offences. - It has since come to my knowledge, that these gill nets were furnished to these persons by Mr. Ben. Goulds, a licensed fisherman, on B. Beach, who purchased from them, the Pike illegally caught on that occasion. - -

After the convictions took place, my boat, a paddle, and two pair of Oars were stolen, and except the paddle, which I traced to Thomas Brofs, - and now in my possession - one of the convicted persons, herein alluded to, I have never since had any clue to the whereabouts of the boat, and Oars. - - -

You will please observe by my returns, that the take and catch of White fish and Salmon Trout, has been small, as compared with previous years, why, it is so, you will please observe, I attribute the

Sir,

23. February 1877. -

With reference to my letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> inst. explaining particulars regarding a shews = paper report of young shad being caught in Lake Ontario, &c. &c. I have now the honor of sending you a small box, by Express, containing about 50, or 60, of the so called shad. -- I will venture to say, that on making a close examination of these fish no man will be able to say they are shad; although by flavour, smell, and taste, they appear to be a salt water fish, apparently of the Herring tribe.

On examining those fish I now send, I don't think you will find any roe or spawn in them, which is a convincing proof, that they are not shad. -- They are the same kind of fish, I reported on to you, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June 1873. -

A man who came up here last summer, from Lower Canada, and who saw some of those fish, called them Gaspereaux. - - -

I will thank you to let me know their name, so that I may publish it to the community. - - With due respect,

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr,  
F.O.

W. G. Whitaker Esq,  
Commissioner of Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

The Canadian Fishery Report for 1876 is now published. The season has been unfortunate, and during the gales some 500 nets were lost which were worth a value of \$3000. The schooner, "C. J. J." arrived on Saturday with 1,000 packages of fish, and loaded some supplies for the season.

AN INTERESTING QUESTION. - Last week we noted the fact that Mr. Lawry and Mr. Mason, tanners, of Dundas, had been fined \$10 and costs by the Police Magistrate of Hamilton, on complaint of Mr. Kerr, Fishery Inspector, for allowing the refuse from their tanneries to be emptied into the creek, and now we learn that the Cotton Works Co. have been summoned to answer to a similar charge, the question being meanwhile referred to the Minister of Fisheries at Ottawa. With regard to this subject, we can only say that the complaint is a most frivolous one, and we trust the head of the Fishery Department will view it in this light. That there are some little cat fish and suckers in the creek we will not deny, but that they could possibly be injured by any of the dyes or other refuse which is allowed to go into the creek from the Cotton Mills and Tanneries is simply ridiculous, as long before the fish are reached the injurious properties of the refuse must be completely destroyed. This is the view which any man of common sense would take of the subject, and it is simply nothing more nor less than a species of petty persecution which has dictated the action we have spoken of. If our manufacturing establishments are to be thus annoyed by those who have a little brief authority the sooner the Government gets rid of such over-anxious servants the better will it be for the public interests.

Private

My dear Harry. —

I am in receipt of your letter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> instant, and will leave here by the first train on Tuesday morning next, and I will go on to Niagara, where, if you send one of the boys for me in the evening, I will be found in Mr Thomas Elliotts — James Sheppard, you, and I; can manage these people you refer to; With kind regards to you Mrs S. and family. —

Yrs Sincerely, John W Kerr

24. February 1877. —

St. Ourses

Mr Harry Sheppard,

Lancaster.

P.S. — go about your business on Tuesday as usual and tell no man that you expect me. —

Yrs John W Kerr

Sir.

24. February 1877. —

In reply to your letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> instant, with reference to the petition presented by Thomas Main Esq<sup>r</sup> M.P. on behalf of certain inhabitants of the County of Warrington — in which you say — "I am to suggest to you, whether the main objection raised by the petitioners might be met by reducing the quantity of nets allowed under licenses, in M. bay" — as already fixed" — "It is said that some of the persons holding these licenses are independent, and well to do farmers, whose situation is hardly such as to need any special consideration" —

I have the honor to report, that I fully agree with your suggestion in every particular, as I have ascertained that the objection was principally raised against the farmers, holding licenses to fish pike gill nets, in the eastern part of M. bay; — and such being the case, I reported to you against it, on 15<sup>th</sup> of November last, wherein you will please find the names of the farmers therein referred to.

under No: 2. - -

The fishermen on B. beach, alone, whose legitimate live in business it is in life, to fish for a livelihood, should be the only persons who need your special consideration; and I have much pleasure in recommending that the same may be granted by you, to them accordingly. - And as is more fully laid down in my answer to No: 2, of the petition referred to, dated 11<sup>th</sup> of November last. - -

If you arrive at this decision which I hope you will: - please advise me at once, so that I may apprise the fishermen, who will require some time to prepare their gill nets, &c. &c.

With much respect,

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,  
F. F. F.  
Ottawa,

I Have &c

John W. Kerr -  
G. O.

Sunday, 27, February 1877. -

At St<sup>l</sup> Catharines, Niagara, and Queenston  
went out at 8, a.m. Came in at 5, a.m. Miles  
about 64 m. - Railway fare \$1.10. Horse and  
Buggy \$5. dinner tea and bed after 5 o'clock a.m.  
on 28<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>r</sup>, 75. - Remained out until 4, a.m. on  
28<sup>th</sup> seized two scows, a seine and some fish, -  
Also took three prisoners - arraigned the prisoners  
for illegal fishing - fined them each \$2.00 a week  
in St<sup>l</sup> Catharines Jail - Confiscated the seine, the  
scows, and fish, - brought them down, and put  
them bye at Mr Longhursts for particulars  
see my official report of 1<sup>st</sup> March. - - -  
Harry Sheppard, James Sheppard, and Joe  
Longhurst were with me - also Sam  
Sheppard, and Jacks Mac, assisted me  
very much. - -



My dear Sir,

Your letter just received; your license will be the same as last year, (<sup>4</sup>10) ten dollars. - Who have been fishing? Why don't you send me their names; please send their names to me as soon as you receive this note from me. - I try to keep up Ashbridges bay, for you pike gill net fishermen, and you see men there daily, spearing pike and bass, and you decline to give me their names; let me have the names of those persons who you see, are fishing at once, and I will come down again, and fine them again heavily. Don't fail to do this immediately; - Is the ice in the Harbour, and the Bay - (Ashbridges bay) broken up, With kind regards,  
Hamilton,

Yrs Sincerely,

25. Feb: 1877. -

John W. Kerr

Mr Leonard Marsh. -

H. Oversee

Leslieville, N. Office. -

Are the fish houses on Ashbridges bay still - if so, whose spearing fish houses are there. -

J. W. Kerr.

Wednesday, 28. Feb: 1877. -

From Queenston to the Gaumeries, - thence to Niagara - and back again to the Gaumeries, where we remained until 11. p.m. - On hearing that Jack Boulton had put the Dutchman Wagner of Youngton N.S. on his guard of me. - I then gave night to Harry Sheppard, - James Sheppard - Jas: Fitzgerald, Winfield Scott, and Jack Mares, and took down the large scow - the seine, four oars and ropes to Niagara - Alex: Keith rowed me down - I paid him of 1, for so doing, - Breakfast <sup>4</sup>25, dinner for self and Harry Sheppard <sup>4</sup>50, - supper and bed <sup>4</sup>50, - Horse and buggy <sup>4</sup>2. - Miles 12. -

Sir,

1<sup>st</sup> March 1844,

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Tuesday night last the 24<sup>th</sup> day of February last, on the Niagara River, south of a place called the Commerce, in the township of Niagara, at 9 p. m., I found James Fitzgerald, James Robbins, and Winifield Scott residents of Lewiston, United States, fishing and catching fish, with a seine, it being in Canadian water, and without a license from the department; I arrested them, and captured the seine, two fishing scows, four bars, and some herring, pickerel, and suckers. - They attempted to get away, by showing off their seine boat got congested, but being called upon to surrender, they done so at once; And they offered no resistance. - - -

I then and there, by the glorious light of the Moon, - tried the prisoners, whom I fined two dollars each, and I confiscated the seine, the boats, oars, ropes, and fish to Her Majesty, our Queen. The fish I sold for \$1<sup>50</sup>/<sub>100</sub>. - The prisoners having paid the fines, I liberated them. - The seine, &c., I brought down to the Town of Niagara, to be detained in safe keeping, waiting your Will and pleasure. - - In conclusion I may add, that James Sheppard, of Lewiston, who acted as my constable, done his duty most efficiently, also James Longhurst, and Harry Sheppard - licensed fishermen, who accompanied me on this duty, as also did a Coloured man. -

There are five seines fished between

Lewiston, and Youngstown, on the American side of the Niagara River, - and being too much crowded over there, they have been in the habit of crossing over, and hauling on the Canadian side of the River Niagara, in our waters. - -

You were pleased to issue to George Wagner of Youngstown U.S., on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October last, the enclosed license, which he would never lift nor receive. - -

What I now beg most respectfully to recommend in this present case, is, that you will be pleased to cancel this license, which is now enclosed - And that you will be also please to issue a license for this current year, to James Fitzgerald, of Lewiston, U.S., for the same limits, by doing this! - I would further respectfully recommend, - That you will be pleased to restore the forfeitures, when James Fitzgerald, becoming a licensed fisherman has promised to conform strictly to our laws, in every particular, "and keep off all trespassers". - -

In conclusion, I have the honor to refer you to my letters of the 12, of July, and the 4<sup>th</sup>, of October last, in behalf of license granted to George Wagner, and I hope the recommendation therein contained, may now have full force and effect, for <sup>Mr.</sup> James Fitzgerald - Lewiston, U.S. -

These are the common sense views, the present contravention of the Fisheries Act, committed by American Subjects - in Dominion waters, bring up on my mind and with much respect

Believe me, Sir,

Yours truly,

I have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. W. Kerr

The seines, scows, oars, and ropes, are valued at \$40 American money. - J. W. Kerr

2

1st March 1874 -

I have the honor to send you Bank Cheque No. 44, for the sum of Ten dollars. --

Will you be pleased to apply this amount on fishing station No. 1 - in Burlington Bay - on Burlington beach, containing ten chains bay frontage, for seine hauling for rough fish, and herring, in the spring of the year only. --

Also fishing station No. 2, in Burlington Bay, on Burlington beach, containing eight chains bay frontage, for seine hauling for rough fish, and herring in spring of year only. -- And which will be similar to the licenses issued last season for the same ground. --

The licenses for this year, you will please issue to Mr. J. Birchy, as the partner he had last year, has left the country. --

Mr. Birchy, is the Owner of the Ocean House, on B. beach, he pays the Dominion Government Board of Works \$100. per year, for the ground on which the Hotel stands, &c, and he desires now to occupy the fishing station as above with all the fishing privileges thereon, and which I strongly recommend to you, in his behalf.

With due respect,

- I Have, &c,

Hon. Ministers,  
H. H. H.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Two American fishermen from Lewiston, N. Y., were arrested at Queenstown, Ont., for fishing in Ontario waters. And now the question arises, How is it that the zealous Ontario fishermen are able to protect their side of the Niagara river from the American depredator, while the great fisheries are unprotected?

#### VIOLATING THE FISHERY LAWS.

The Inspector of Fisheries for this district, Mr. J. W. Kerr, having been informed that a number of Americans were in the habit of crossing over the Niagara River to a place called the "Tannerles," between the town of Niagara and Queenston, on the Canadian side, where they fished without a license, proceeded thither at once. While lying concealed one night last week on the bank of the river, at the place mentioned, he observed two boats crossing the river, with a seine, under the direction of three men. As they reached the Canadian shore Inspector Kerr, with his assistant, at once pounced upon them. The men were captured, and their boats and fishing net, with some fish, were seized, and confiscated. The men, whose names were James Fitzgerald, James Robbins, and Winifred Scott, all Americans, were fined \$2 each.



Sir.

5. March 1877.

I have the Honor to submit for your Consideration, a petition from the Seine hauling, fishermen of Niagara, and its vicinity.

I may mention in Connection with this petition that owing to the falling off in the Catch, and take of White fish by Seine, on the Seine hauling ground referred to, the license fees had to be reduced annually. -- I do not, <sup>myself</sup> consider it will in any way increase the White fish, as the Seine hauling only lasts during the months of May, some part of the month of April, and ends before the run of small White fish usually commences in June.

I would respectfully take the liberty of recommending this petition to your favourable Consideration, and with due respect.

I Have &c

Hon. Minister

Colwell St.

Y,

Y. S.

Thursday - 1. March 1877.

At Niagara - had the Seine put up to dry the ropes &c - put the oars and reels &c - gave them in charge to Mr. Thomas Elliott.

Thence by Stage to St. Catharines and home by Railway. - Lewis Bessey - paid me \$3. for license fee, - saw Jim Miller - who applied for the usual license - saw Dutch Pete who also asked for a renewal of license - Paddy O'Rand and he were selling Ciscos - breakfast and dinner 75. Stage fare 50. - Railway fare \$1.10 - Miles 50. -

Sir,

5. March 1877. -

I have the honor to enclose for your information herewith, two pieces of Cisco & blue back herring gill nets. - The largest piece I got from Mr. P. Gray - a Toronto Island fisherman - and the smaller piece I got from Mr. Alfred Ball - a Niagara fisherman. - The latter is a machine made net. - My object in sending you these pieces of net is that you may be pleased to issue an order - that no gill nets under two <sup>extension measure</sup>  $\frac{7}{8}$  inches, be in future fished for Herrings or Ciscos, - - This you will find is the size of the mesh of the pieces and now send you.

In connection with these Herring and Cisco gill nets I may here mention - that there is so many Herring gill nets of a smaller size fished: that small fish are sometimes so numerously caught that the market gets glutted - and small pieces are paid <sup>for them</sup> - whereas if this uniform sized mesh as herewith is established - a better and larger class of Cisco & Herring will be caught all over, and for which the highest prices will be always obtainable. - True! less fish - but of a better and larger quality will be caught, <sup>at just the over</sup> but this will make up for the deficiency in quantity.

In recommending <sup>to you</sup>  $2\frac{7}{8}$  inches extension measure herring gill net, and Cisco gill net, and shed or gaspareau gill net being fixed and established - I would respectfully recommend that all Herring & Cisco gill nets on hand, <sup>at present allowed to be</sup> be fished out, so that no losses may happen to the fishermen in whose <sup>possession</sup> such smaller gill nets are at present.

Yours Minister

J. J. J.

H. H. H.

I Have &amp;c

John H. H.

Sir,

5, March 1877.

I have the honor to apply to you, for a license for the President Joseph A. Wood of the Peninsula Irish and Game Club of St. Catharines - license to be the same as last year. - - -

And I have also to apply to you for a license for Peter Blath, of Port Dalhousie, to fish gill nets in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Grantham, in outside waters, the license to be the same as last year. - - -

On receipt of those licenses, I will forward the money from them and send it down.

With due respect,

Hon. Minister

I Have &c.

John W. H. H.

J. W. H.

Sir,

5, March 1877. -

I have the honor to recommend that you will be pleased to fix and establish that all pike gill nets shall be 4½ inches extension measure. - - - By doing so - the pike in future caught in such gill nets, will be good & reliable fish. -

At present there is no established sized mesh in gill nets for catching pike. -

With due respect,

Hon. Minister

I Have &c.

John W. H. H.

J. W. H.

Recent experiments show that it takes about thirteen pounds of kidney, liver, and similar kinds of meat, to produce one pound of fish. This point having been determined, the owner of trout-ponds or streams can readily ascertain whether the raising of trout for market by feeding artificially can be made a profitable business—not forgetting, however, that trout fed upon livers and kidneys are more beautiful to look upon than savoury when cooked.—*Moore's Rural.*

THE FISHERIES.—The waters of Rice Lake and tributaries, together with the River Trent down to the Bay of Quinte, and also that portion of the Otonabee river, extending from its inlet at the said Lake to Lock's Bridge, Peterboro', all within the Counties of Hastings, Northumberland and Peterboro', in the Province of Ontario, are set apart, by proclamation in the *Gazette*, for the natural and artificial propagation of fish during the space of two years, from May 1, 1877.

FISHING ON THE BAY.—Spearing in Burlington Bay and Dundas Marsh closes on the 31st March. Persons who have not paid their spearing licenses should do so at once, so as to avoid unpleasantness with the authorities, and to ensure a renewal of their licenses in the future.



Ser.

5, March 1877. -

I have the honor to forward herewith, for your consideration copies of (2.) letters regarding a piece of the beach, situated on fishing station No. 1, in No. 1 Bay - on B. Bay - township of Saltfleet, - on which a Mr. McKean of Hamilton, has applied to the Board of Works, for a lease, and on which to build a house. - The place is close up to the fence of the Light House keepers lot - and on the fishing of one chain, just where the late James Waddell, fisherman - had placed, for holding his seine. - The beach, including the public road, and fishing reserve at the place referred to is only two chains wide - and I deem it advisable in consequence to recommend that no encroachment by the building of a house to reside in be permitted on the fishing reserve in the instance, being as it is already licensed to Mr. J. R. Birch, proprietor of the Ocean House there, and which being in front of his next summer establishment. -

Mr. Birch pays 10, for the fishing reserve and for the ground rent for his Hotel, &c. of 100. - per year, to the Board of Works. -

Will you be pleased to give this case your due consideration in behalf of the fishing as this place now sought to be leased by Mr. McKean - being used for fishing purposes alone - for several years past. -

With much respect,

Minister,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

J. W. Kerr

Note - The map I sent you, made by Messrs. J. W. Kerr & Co. will give you all the information.





My dear Sir,

Why don't you pay up your license for last year. - And why have you commenced fishing this season - I must have your money at once, - for no person is allowed to fish until he first pays up. -

Yrs truly,

John W. Kent

T. O.

6. March 1877. -

Mrs Wm McLeat,  
and Sally Wright, -  
Fisherman. -  
Frenchman Bay. -

My dear Sir,

You have been all complained of, for fishing for Salmon Trout, without a license, please send me your license fee, on receipt, and if George Black is fishing - he must pay at once. please give the enclosed to Bill McLeat, and Oblige. -

Yrs truly

Thomas Mansfield -

Fisherman -

Frenchman Bay. -

John W. Kent

T. O.

6. March 1877.

My dear Sir,

You will please receive your license, for current year herewith, Has Frank Rose commenced fishing yet.

Yrs truly

Mr John Everett

Fisherman -

Fort Erie.

John W. Kent

T. O.

6. March 1877.

My dear Sir,

Your letter of 2<sup>d</sup> instant received - please send me on receipt - all the names and the residences of the persons who caught the speckled trout you refer to, also the name of the person who sent the trout to Mr. Fairbairn Toronto - and the name of the person whom they were sent by, and how many were sent, I will come up myself, as soon as I hear from you again. - I send you a notice enclosed, which will show you what the law is - When I come up, we can prosecute the parties you refer to, don't fail to write me at once. - -

Yrs Truly

John W. Kerr

Mr J. S. Harris. -

Hillsburg, P. Office. -

Onto

Hamilton, Onto.

6. March 1877. -

Note! -

Please let me know if the stage leaves Georgetown - before the train from Hamilton at -  
Nines - for Hillsburg. -

Yrs Truly

My dear Mr. Gray. -

Please tell Len: Marsh, Billy Montgomery - John Gensell, Wm Sturdy and Afted - they can commence fish gill net fishing in Ashbridges bay - as soon as the ice breaks up - on paying to you the usual license fee, for the department of 10<sup>¢</sup> each - save Afted, who will pay you only 5<sup>¢</sup>. - If James Durman intends fishing he had better go in with them, and pay his 10<sup>¢</sup> - also to you for

Yrs Truly

John W. Kerr

Mr R. Gray.

The Island.

Toronto.

6. March 1877.

Sir,

12. March 1877.

I have the Honor to apply to you, for the usual supply of foolscap paper - for official use in my correspondence - also blank forms of quarterly returns, - and blank incidental forms.

I Have &c.

W. F. Whitehouse Esq  
Commissioner of Fisheries.  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

My dear Sir,

please let me have your usual license fee \$5. for this current year, and I will send your license by return of post,

please send me the seeds, you have promised me. - and with kind respect

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

My pete Bath.  
Fisherman,

Port Dalhousie - Onto

12. March 1877,

"Confidential" My dear Sir,

Many thanks for your kind note, as soon as the snow storm moderates, you may expect me, - don't mention to any person, that you expect me up, - Is the G. T. Ry. - from Toronto, just train in the day, the train that take out the mail to Georgetown that go by stage to Erin Village, or Hillsburg, - or is there a mail stage from Alton. - and is there a daily mail from Georgetown - Alton please write and let me know, with my kind respects, Yrs Sincerely,

W. F. Whitehouse Esq  
Butcher  
Erin Village

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

12. March 1877,



Sir,

13, February 1877,

I have the honor to report for your information, that the following persons have been spearing and catching pike and bass, in Ashbridges Bay, east of the City of Toronto, during the past week, without a license from you, and they have been spearing on Sundays the 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> instant. --

My 5

- |                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. - John Caruthers Jr.           | Leslieville. -  |
| 2. - Miss Barnes.                 | Toronto. -      |
| 3. - James Simmonds.              | Leslieville. -  |
| 4. - Thomas Sotton,               | do. -           |
| 5. - Lee <sup>d</sup> Marsh.      | do. -           |
| 6. - Fred <sup>k</sup> Ford.      | do. -           |
| 7. - John Finnegan.               | do. -           |
| 8. - Fred <sup>k</sup> Greenwood. | do. -           |
| 9. - Charles Laing.               | do. -           |
| 10. - George Redwell.             | do. -           |
| 11. - Victor Thomas Jr.           | do. -           |
| 12. - Cook.                       | do. Brickmaker. |
| 13. - James Sedwick.              | do.             |

I visited Ashbridges Bay, on Sunday last, accompanied by detectives Reid, and Sheehan - kindly placed at my disposal by Mr. Macpherson - Deputy Chief Constable - City of Toronto Police Force - where the information I received was then fully confirmed as herein set forth.

To-day - the 12<sup>th</sup> instant, I obtained summonses from Alex. Macnab Esq. Police Magistrate - for the persons above complained against, and they will be all brought up on Saturday next, to answer for said illegal offences. -

With due respect,

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Sten,  
J. O.Hon. Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

Sir,

13. February 1877. -

I have the honor to report for your information that I visited Ashbridges and Toronto Bays, on last Sunday, the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, accompanied by detectives Reid, and Sheehan, Toronto Police force - when I found the following person there, fishing through holes cut in the ice, with lines and hooks, baited with beef and liver, fishing for, and catching perch - which is contrary to the Sabbath Observance and Fisheries Acts. - - -

- 1 Charles Crawford, - 104, Francis St. - Toronto -
- 2, Charles Smith, - 106, - Gerrard St. - do. - -
3. - John Low - 68, Niagara St. - do. - -
4. - Sticks, - at Duckworths - Brock St. - Toronto.
5. - Bond, - do, do. - -
6. - His son, - do, do. - -
7. James Carruthers, Leslieville. - -
8. Wm Carruthers, - do, -
9. Jesse Kindrick, do, Don Mount, -
10. James Kindrick, - do, do. -
11. James Phillips, - 34, Tecumseh St. Toronto.
12. His son, - do, do. -
13. Fred<sup>r</sup> Clare, Leslieville, -
14. David Gibson, - do. -
15. John Thompson, - 36, River St. - Toronto. -
16. - Christopher Wright, Blacksmith, Kingston Road. -
17. Joseph Walker, - 28, Duches St. - Toronto, -
18. George Platt, Kingston Road. -
19. - George Williams New Roadhouse Kingston Road - Illegat
20. James Williams - do, do, do.
21. George Nicholson, - Rapp's lane. - Toronto. -
22. John Wedgeford - 18, Elizabeth St. do -
23. Wm Thompson - 120, Chestnut St. do,
24. Wm Durand, 11, Brock St. do,

They will be all summarised up for Saturday  
next, to answer before Alex. Macneil Esq. & Mr. Magrath.  
when I will appear with the detectives and witnesses.

With much respect,

I Have &c

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr

G. G. G.

Sir,

13. February 1877. -

I have the honor to report for your information  
that large quantities of the young fry - Starling Fry principally  
are, and have been caught for bait, and destroyed during the  
past week by hundreds of people, who daily assemble on  
the ice of Toronto Bay - fishing thro' holes cut in the ice for  
perch - in about 22 feet depth of water which they catch  
in great quantities. - - -

It is about half way between the Northern  
Railway Elevator, and the west point of the Island where  
this perch fishing is being carried on. - - -

Although there may be some people amongst  
them, who go out on week days for amusement, I  
consider the majority fish to catch perch to eat. - - -

Before I would <sup>take any</sup> action in this case, I deem it ad-  
visable under the circumstances to submit the matter  
for your consideration first, and I ask for instructions.

With due respect,

I Have &c

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr

G. G. G.

Sir

13. Feb: 1877. -

I have the honor to apply to you and I beg most respectfully to recommend: That you will be pleased to permit spearing through the ice, in Ashbridges bay - Toronto - for bass and pike, from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, to the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, this year, and henceforth, at the rate of \$1. per, for the said period. - - -

I may here state, that I have stopped the illegal spearing, I ~~found~~ going on there, until you grant this application: - And your future pleasure is known in this matter. - -

With due respect

I Have &amp;c

Hon. Ministers

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Messrs. David Ward,  
and Robt. Gray. - Fishermen,  
Toronto Island. -

My dear Sirs, -

From time to time, complaints have been made direct to the Fisheries department, Ottawa, - and to me individually, that during White fish Seining, you have fished seines under four inches extension measure - in fact I heard of a "bud net Centre" - please conform strictly with the law in this case in future and all other fishing matters, and by so doing, set all Sattlers at defiance. -

Yrs. Respectfully, -

Hamilton, Onto

John W. Kerr.

Y. O. O. O.

23. Feb: 1877. -

Gray - Read this yourself and then hand it to Mr. D. Ward. -



My dear Sir,

Yours received. - The ten dollars you refer to, will be applied on acct to your license for this year. - Is it true gill nets are set under the ice, in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> ponds, please answer, and oblige,

Yrs respectfully,

John W. Sten,

Fishery Officer,

Hamilton, Ont.,

23. Feb: 1877.

Mr Rich Gilbert  
Jordan, P. Office,

Friday 16. Feb: 1877. -

At Toronto, and the Island, - examined the summonses served upon persons for breaking the fisheries Act by spearing pike and bass in Ashbridge Bay. - without a license. Went out at 9. A. M. came in at 6.30. P. M. - went down and saw David Ward, who has the 4" rich Centre's for white fish series. - went miles 48. Ry fare 1.30<sup>4</sup> - dinner, tea and bed 75<sup>4</sup>, fare on Ice boat 25<sup>4</sup>. -

Saturday, 17. Feb: 1877. -

At the Police Court, to prosecute persons for illegal spearing, and fishing on the Sabbath, fifteen persons were fined \$2. each, as per report, bearing this date, went out at 7.30. A. M. came in at 5. P. M. - miles 48. Railway fare 1.30<sup>4</sup>, Breakfast and dinner 50<sup>4</sup>. -

Sir,

17. February 1877.

I have the honor to report for your information that this day, before Alexander Macnab Esq<sup>r</sup> Police Magistrate, City of Toronto. . . .

1. Thos. Sadden, 2. John Barrother, 3. Jas. Simmonds, 4. Wm. Ford, 5. Wm. Sedwick, 6. Geo. Cooke, 7. Prince John, 8. Geo. Marsh, 9. George Redwell. . .

These paid two dollars each, without costs, for spearing fish in Ashbridges Bay, without a license from department, on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> day of February instant. . . .

The six just named paid their fines amounting to \$12, - of which I herewith send you six dollars, "half the fines", - to which the department is entitled. - The three last named persons have not yet paid. . . .

at the same time and place, J. Greenwood, John Low, James Walker, George Platt, James Kendrick, and James Phillips, were each fined \$2, without costs - for fishing on Sunday, the 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, instant, on Toronto Bay. The four just paid their fines, four dollars of which was handed over to the Municipality of Toronto. The two last named persons have not yet paid. . . .

The cases against twelve others were dismissed with a caution, while ten persons could not be found; The Magistrate and myself have come to the conclusion, that the majesty of the law is now fully maintained by the convictions imposed without going any further. - With due respect,

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

Hawa.

Wednesday, 21. Feb: 1877.

At Millgrove to see Mr David Cummins, about  
letting apart his Trout Pond - situated on lot  
No: 17, in the 5<sup>th</sup> Concession West Harbour. Went  
out at 8.30. a.m. came in at 5. p.m. Miles 26,  
St. and sleigh - 2.50<sup>¢</sup>, dinner 50<sup>¢</sup>. Tolls 10<sup>¢</sup>.

Thursday, 22, Feb: 1877. -

On No. beach, thence home by City - see report  
on the Gaspareaux - went out at 9. a.m. came  
in at 4. p.m. - Miles 24. St. & W<sup>g</sup> 2.00<sup>¢</sup>. - Had to  
cheque the fishermen for fishing small besee gill  
nets. -

Sir

5. March 1877. -

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
cheque No: 283, - for the sum of Six dollars. -

This is the same amount referred to, in  
my letter to you of the 14<sup>th</sup> day of February last,  
which I said therein, I had sent you - but did  
not do so, because the Bank had not then  
received the form from the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Receiver  
General. - With much respect.

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister  
H. F. H.

John W. Kerr.  
H.O.

Lulls 25<sup>¢</sup>

Lull 25<sup>¢</sup>

Postage stamps - 35<sup>¢</sup>

Sir,

7. September 1877. -

I have the honor to apply to you for authority to sell about 1600 yards of pike gill nets, I seized for being illegally set and fished in M. Bay, - last spring by unlicensed fishermen in contravention of the Fisheries Act. - by unlicensed persons, some of whom I had fined for committing said offences.

The nets such of them as are sound will answer, "if repaired" for catching trout fish in Lake Ontario, - while the leads and corks of the bad nets, being still good are fit to be used in mounting new gill nets, I cannot recommend any of those gill nets being restored to the Owners - because after they were convicted, I believe they stole and sunk my boat, in M. Bay. - The proceeds of sale, I will remit to the Fisheries department.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Hon. Minister,

Y. Y. Y.

Ottawa.

Monday. 12. March 1877. -

Visited the Oil Works at the head of Sher-  
mans inlet - and found a considerable quantity  
of Oil in the Inlet, - saw Mr. Granks - and told  
him the Oil was damaging the fish in the waters  
of the Bay, - for further particulars - see my  
report of 13. instant, - went out at 2. p. m.  
came in at 5. p. m. - miles 10. 344 8 - 1.50.



With reference to your letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant instructing me how to fix the size of the mesh of pike gill nets at 12 inches extension measure - I have the honor to report that I thank you for your kind advice and I will carry out your instructions accordingly, - And at the same time I will permit any old nets on hand under this size to be fished out. - - -

Now as regards that part of N. bay, already set apart by you for pike gill net fishing only, viz. between Grant and Starvey's farm - in the Township of Barton, and Martin's wharf on N. beach in township of Salfleet - from the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, until the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May in each year, - I have the honor to recommend that Starveys Inlet, - Lotbridges Inlet, Gages and Isprows inlets, Secords Inlet, Jones Inlet, Starveys Inlet, and big Creek pond - wherein the farmers were in the habit of fishing pike gill nets heretofore - under licenses be also in future exempt from pike gill net fishing therein. - - As the great breeding places for pike and bass of the various kinds in these southern parts of the Bay, - and in giving out licenses to the resident fishers on this season on N. beach - to whom I consider this indulgence alone may in future be granted. - I hope I may be also empowered to put a clause therein to this effect. -

As N. bay is still completely frozen up, and pike gill net fishing cannot be commenced therein yet, for some time to come, - I beg most respectfully to recommend that licenses to fish for, and catch pike in the open waters, outside only of that part, east and south in N. bay, of a line drawn now, and between the farms of Grant and Starvey - on the bay, in the township of Barton, and to Martin's wharf on N. beach, in the Township of Salfleet, be issued by you, omitting independent farmers, in future, <sup>as you suggest</sup> from the special privilege of pike gill net fishing - making the

spearing of fish however available to them through the ice in future during every winter. -- In conclusion I have the honor, to recommend that thirteen Boat Licenses, for pike gill net fishermen, residents on B. Beh., may be now issued to me (blank) to be filled up, for the undersigned at a rate not exceeding  $\$5$  per, according to the quantity in yards of gill net - to be fished; thus! -

1. Fred: Corey, B. Beh. 8. Alex: Kollo, B. Beh.
2. W: McGwynne, do. 9. D: Gitch, do.
3. Ben: Golds. do. 10. D: McGillivray, do.
4. Wm: Depew. do. 11. Rob: Fletcher, do.
5. Sam: Dynes. do. 12. Mort: Corey. do.
6. Ric: Laaffe. do. 13. Lou: Corey. do.
7. John Laaffe. do.

and with due respect,

Hon: Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

I Have &c.  
John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Wednesday, 14, March 1877. -  
at Toronto - got the F. Portueries license fee from Mr Doyle - for year 1876. - also  $\$6$ . fine from Mr Audelle - Police Court. - also received this day  $\$5$ . from Mr George White - Whitley - fee for 1877. - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. - bill 90, Ry fare 2.60, dinner 35,

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to let me have your license fee of 30. dollars, on receipt, for the fisheries at Fort Erie - in the Niagara River, - for this current season, and as at present occupied by you, and I will send it to Ottawa, and get up your license for you. - With my kind regards to you all. -

Yours truly and paternally. -

Mr. Frank Rose,  
Fisherman -  
Fort Erie, Onto.

Johul W. Kerr

D.O.,

12. March 1877. -

My dear Harry, -

Although, I made my report of the seizure of James Fitzgeralds Seize, Scow, and fish - the day after you saw me, gave you all - please and yourself, all due praise for efficiency, in the matter; recommended that all be restored to him again; still I have not heard a word as yet from Ottawa. - Tell Fitzgerald to bear on with patience, I expect every thing will be all right in a few days, when I will write you, and come down, - With my best regards to you all, believe me, Yours paternally. -

Johul W. Kerr

D.O.,

12. March 1877. -

Mr. Harry Sheppard, -  
Queenston, -

P.S. - How is Joe Gabriel. -

Has the dutchman - Barrington or Dick Robb's been over since. - Watch them - those dark rough nights -

Yours &c J. W. Kerr

Sir,

13. March 1877. -

I have the honor to report, that during the month of August last, The Silver Star Oil Company, &c. commenced refining oil - at the head of Sherman's Inlet, - Burlington Bay - in the township of Barton. - - -

I visited the place on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of August last, and had a conversation with Mr. Maurice Franks, the Overseer of the works, and notified him to keep the oil out of the Inlet - and B. Bay, - &c. I have also visited the place on several occasions, and warned him to the same effect.

On yesterday, I happened to be near there, and finding considerable coal oil refuse in the Inlet, which is composed of chemical substances, or drugs, and poisonous matter, Sulphuric Acid, &c, which was allowed to pass into, be left, and remain in the waters of the Inlet, and B. Bay - frequented by the kinds of fish mentioned in the Act. -

I noticed Mr. Franks to appear before James Cahill Police Magistrate - and myself, at 10 o'clock, a.m., this morning, as some of the pike speared in the Bay, recently, when cooked - tasted of Coal oil, and was impregnated with it so much, that the fish were thereby rendered unfit for food. - - -

Mr. Franks - attended and asked for time, in order that he might get down two large tanks from Petrolia, into which he will in future run all this refuse stuff - Mr. Cahill, and I acceded to Mr. Franks' proposition for the present. Hon: Ministers,

I Have &amp;c

Y. Y. Y.

Ottawa.

John W. Kern  
J. O.



My dear Sir,

In obedience to instructions I received from the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa, dated the 12<sup>th</sup> day of March instant I have now the honor to inform you, that the license formerly issued in your name by the Fisheries department, for the privilege of fishing pike gill nets in Burlington bay, "including the inlets" will not be renewed. --

Yr<sup>s</sup> Mch<sup>3</sup>

With much respect,

John Bates, Saultfleet.  
Wm Bates, Saultfleet,  
Ellis Harris, Saultfleet,  
Wm Jagg, Barton. --  
S. R. Cape, Barton. --  
Wm Lottbridge, Barton, --

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

John W. Kerr,

Fishery Overseer. --

Hamilton, Ont<sup>o</sup>.

14. March 1877. --

Sir,

14. March 1877. --

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank Cheque of this date, No: 324, for the sum of Ten dollars.

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, as follows;

No. 1. Francis Portwine - of Gates gulley. - Boat license to fish Salmon Trout, and White fish gill nets, in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Scarborough, for the past year, (1876.) and now received. -- No. 5. 00.  
license is required for this amount. --

" 2. Mr. George White - of Whitby - for license to fish at Whitby Harbour, for this current year, the license to be the same as last season. -- 5. 00.

With much respect,

Total, \$10.00

I have &c

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa

John W. Kerr  
F. O.

Thursday, 15, March 1877. -

On the Heights, B. beach - delivered Notices to Messrs John Bates - to Mr Wm Bates, Wm Gage and Wm Lottbridge Jr. personally - and to Ellis Harris by George Stoll, - see head of page 220. - went out at 9. a.m., came in at 5. p.m. - C. J. Kerr - with me - miles about 26. 544; 2.50. - Tolls 8¢ - Heard from Mr Andrew Gage and his father Mr Wm Gage - that gill nets were fished in Big Creek, during the mild weather in February. - Also that Wm Lottbridge Jr. had told him the Bates, Stipe and he would fike gill net in the Inlets this spring in spite of Kent. -

Saturday, 17, March 1877. -

In consequence of S. B. Stipe making threats against me this morning when I served him with the Notice - that his fike gill net license, would not be renewed this year. - that the public were wondering - if we had a government officer, over B. bay - that Bill Gage was putting apple trees at the point, which would impede navigation - If I did not have them removed I would be reported to the Government. - Told Stipe, I had nothing to do with navigation - he then said - it would injure and impede the fishing I replied there would be no fishing allowed in the Inlets - I believe any more - I would not interfere with the point nor his quarrel with Mr Gage, it was not the first time that Mr Gage placed apple tree in the waters of the bay and bay inlets - to stop illegal fishing, - and keep the banks from washing away. - I went down to Gage inlet and saw the 8 old apple tree stumps - placed on the ice - in a

row. the outside one is not ten yards from the shore - Mr. Wulgate informed me that sometimes persons came there at night, and hauled in a seine, in contravention of the Fisheries Act, and it was to prevent clandestine hauling there, that he placed the old apple trees, in row, I must confess, I coincide in his views: - They neither do navigation nor the Fisheries any harm - and for my part, I approve of the Act, done under such circumstances; - went out at 1. p.m. came in at 5. p.m. - went up the bay on the ice, and on to the depot, and the Heights. - Miles 12. 1/4 and sleigh, - 2.00.

postages <sup>1/2</sup> 25. Wrote Bill McLoch -  
Stationery - Note paper and envelopes  
25. <sup>1/2</sup>

Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1877.

On 15. bay, found Terence Kordan and Charles Chisholm - out spearing for Herring; - they have not yet paid the 1/1 fee, - sent down the beam and took my boat from Mat; Thompsons boat House to Wulgate. left it in his driving house. - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 1. p.m. Horse and sleigh 2.00. - Beam taking down Boat 1.50, - Miles with 1/4 sleigh - about 18 - with Beam about 10. - - Massey - applied to me today for his boat. I advised him to petition the Hon. the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. -

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> A. J. Smith, —

Minister of Marine and Fisheries, —  
Canada. —

Stone<sup>d</sup> Sir,

We the undersigned inhabitants of the Village of Port Dalhousie, County of Lincoln — Province of Ontario, humbly petition — Your Honors that you would be pleased to grant Peter Bath, a license to draw a seine over the fishing ground, he formerly owned; viz<sup>t</sup> From the west pier, of the Port Dalhousie harbour, extending westerly one thousand yards, as said fishing would be of considerable advantage to the people of said village — Trusting you will give the matter your favourable consideration, and as in duty bound Your petitioners will ever pray: —

Port Dalhousie. — Signed John Lawrie J. P. —

March 12. 1877. —

Johnson Gregory. — Reeve. —  
Edward Griffin,  
Joseph Kelly. —

Captain John Reid. — John Chas. Bondine. —

John Rodgers. Butcher. — Edward Murphy. —

E. F. Dwyer — and 19 others. —

Mr. Bath, is a resident of the Village, and the above petition would be universally approved of by all the inhabitants. — Signed,

J. Gregory J. P. M.,  
Port Dalhousie.



House of Commons. -

Dear Sir. -

March 14, 1877. -

I have the honor to enclose herewith petition of Peter Bath - signed by John Lewis, J.P. and 28 others - praying for a privilege or license to draw a seine over the fishing ground he formerly owned, extending one thousand yards westerly from the West Pier at Port Dalhousie. -

I would be much pleased if you can grant the prayer of the petition, and send a reply to the petitioner. -

I have the honor to be,

Sir. -

To, Hon. Ministers of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) James Morris. -

James Morris M.P. for Peter Bath

Ottawa. - 14. Mar: 1877.

For a fishing license to use a seine from West Pier  
Dalhousie. -

ack<sup>d</sup> and Copy referred to J. W. Kent Esq. for  
report, 19. March 1877. -

Revised, copied - Report received - J. W. Kent Esq. -

21. March 1877. -

31 March 1877. - Wrote Mr. Henry Sheppard - Quinston.  
respecting Jas. Fitzguald's license and  
the restoration of his seine ropes,  
scows, and oars. - H. F. F.  
1<sup>st</sup> April 1877. Wrote to Abt. H. Fobbe - Clinton  
Massville - about seine license  
this year - being \$15. -

Sir,

21. March 1877.-

I have the honor to receive your instructions herewith, to report upon the advisability - "for a fishing license to use a seine from West pier. Port Dalhousie, in Ontario, by Peter Bath, a fisherman resident there. . .

And in reply, I have the honor to report that I see no insurmountable objection in this case - As Mr. Bath, a fisherman, resident at Port Dalhousie, requires a seine hauling ground in L. Ontario, west of the Welland Canal. . . .

The license issued by you, on the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, to the President, Directors, and Members of the Peninsula Fish and Game Club - St. Catharines, already covers and extends 200 yards from the west pier; (outside of this boundary). I recommend that Peter Bath, may have a seine hauling license granted to him by you, for this current year, at \$5. per. - I cannot fail to do otherwise recommended as Mr. Peter Bath already is for this privilege by James Morris Esq<sup>r</sup>, M. P. - Johnston Gregory Esq<sup>r</sup> the Reeve. John Laurie Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. - and 26 others - respectable inhabitants of Port Dalhousie, as a privilege that will be universally approved of, by all the inhabitants there, for whom he catches fishes. . . .

The boundaries of this seine hauling license might be made to read thus! "commencing at a post planted in the beach of Lake Ontario, 200 yards from the Lake side of the west pier of the Welland Canal, at Port Dalhousie - thence along the waters edge of the said beach, west, to a post planted 1,000 yards therefrom - and to extend into the waters of the Lake in front of the beach, for a distance of 1760 yards." - The same being in front of Port Dalhousie, in the County of Lincoln."

With due respect,

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr.  
T.O.

Hon. Minister,

Ottawa.

Mr George White,  
Whitby, Ont.

My dear Sir.

Yours received - Will  
you please find your license for pike gill net fishing  
herewith. --

If those people who want to fish a beaver, and  
who own one, and live in Whitby - the same as they  
fished last year at Shoal point, and the mouth of  
Lyons Creek, let them apply for - and I will obtain for  
them a license for \$5, for the season, but they can fish  
no more under you, nor under your license. --

I am not going to allow Mr James Story's son  
to fish a beaver any more, and if they are com-  
plained of this year, - I will have to fine them. --

Those people you have been accommodating  
you up town, are well able to pay, and if they don't  
choose to take out a license, they are well able to buy  
and pay for fish. --

Had I known at the time, the reason why! - I  
was asked to change the license last year, so as  
to admit you ~~or they~~ to fish a beaver, I would not  
have done so, I have not heard of a single salmon  
being seen in Lyons Creek for a long time! -  
but until last fall I was not aware that those  
Whitby people and the Storys fished there. I cannot  
allow it any longer.

Hamilton, Ont

26. March 1877. -

Y<sup>rs</sup>

Truly. -

John W. Kerr,

J. Quincey.

My dear Sir,

Please send me \$5, until I apply  
for, and get your license...

George White has just got his; but I  
have written him to say; the Whitley people must  
take on, and pay for their own license. They  
cannot be clocked any longer....

If you have any news; please let  
me hear from you.

Yours sincerely,  
John W. Kerr

My John Broadbent,  
Blacksmith,  
Whitley R. Office  
Onto

D. O.,  
Hamilton, Onto.  
26. March 1877.

My dear Madam,

Your note of 23<sup>rd</sup> inst., ap-  
plying for a fishing license to beise for Sterring's  
received. - I may mention to you that I had an  
application from my William S. House - who paid  
me \$5, for a seine hauling ground in L. Butares,  
in front of lot 110:25, 3<sup>rd</sup> concession of Dorro to  
Township. - I presume this is the place you  
hailed in last fall, after you bought Mad.  
Shafers seine. - I will have to come down and  
see you shortly about it.

Yours respectfully,  
John W. Kerr

My Charlotte Reid,  
Port Credit,  
Onto

D. O.,  
26. March 1877.



My dear Sir,

Will you please give the enclosed to Mr Reid, who just applies again for that fishing ground you wrote me about some time ago. —

Before fishing time arrives, I will come down and see her, — about the ground she wants, read the enclosed, and hand it to her. — How are you my old friend. — As usual. —

Yours sincerely, —

J. M. Kerr

St. Catharines. —

Stamilton, Onto

Mr James Wilcox,  
Port Credit.

26, March 1877. —

P.S. — Although Mr. Morse paid the money — still as you recommended, I will try and give the fishing ground to Mr Reid, who is an old fisherman's daughter.

26, March 1877.

J. M. Kerr

J. O.

W. G. Whitaker Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Commissioner of Fisheries  
Ottawa.

Please send on receipt  
pike gill net licenses, for  
Burlington beach fishes  
1 man to fish in May. —

J. M. Kerr

J. O.

Stamilton,

2<sup>nd</sup> April 1877. —

My dear Sir. —

I have received your letter, respecting some misunderstanding there is, or difference of opinion in regard to the public fishing with hook and line, in the public waters at Pt. Belhousie, during legal season of the year: — And in which you refer to a case brought under your notice where the children of a poor family (not however needed the fish, for a living were driven away), and deprived of the privilege of fish ing.

In reply, I have the honor to state for your information, and that of the public generally, that if you will be pleased to furnish me with the names of the children, who were fishing, and that were stopped by some unauthorized person, whose name you will please send me also, and the date of the same, as near as possible, I will lay the matter before the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister of Marine and Fisheries — Ottawa. —

Personally, I know nothing about the transaction you now refer to, but I have heard of some very high handed measures carried on by Mr. James Miller, of St. Catharines, but as I possess nothing myself on the subject, must refer to you for something solid to go on. — please give all particulars, and oblige Yrs Respectfully, —

John W. Kent,  
St. Catharines.

Johnson Gregory Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Reside of  
Pt. Belhousie.

Hamilton, Onto  
26. March 1877.

Sir,

22. January 1877. --

I have the honor to send you herewith my account, and diary, for the quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 1876, also petty expenses, &c, during the same period. --

To amount of diary herewith. --	\$ 165.61,
" Voucher No: 1. John W. Kerr, Specimens.	9.25.
" " " 2. Office Rent. --	5.00.
" " " 3. Postages, &c.	4.27.
" " " 4. Telegraphs. --	3.24.
" " " 5. Stationery, &c.	2.25.
" " " 6. Teaming, &c. --	3.60. --
" " " 7. -- Fred <sup>K</sup> Kerr, Boatman.	19.50. ✓
" " " 8. Chas; J. Kerr -- do. --	27.00. ✓
" " " 9. Ed; Kerr -- do. --	10.50. ✓
" " " 10. Staunton, and Granks, Survey &	26.00.
Total. --	\$ 276.22 ✓

All of which is respectfully Submitted. --

I Have &c.

The Hon <sup>ble</sup> <sub>...</sub>

John W. Kerr,  
J. Overseer.

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa. --

To amount in full. \$ 276.22 ✓

By Cash received

250.00 = 26.22 is still

27. April 1877. due. --  
J. W. Kerr  
O.O.

My dear Wilmot,

29. March 1877.

Many thanks for the Illustrated Paper, - I suppose I may wish the man of Old; say! - Live, O King! for ever! - and that you may still prosper!!.

I had an official letter, a few days ago, from Head Quarters, about the enormity of the expenses incurred in my division during the past twelve years. - which is set down \$900, a year; and advising retrenchment, to which in any case, I cannot have the slightest objection. But as the Salmon streams form an item of \$2,000, - from 1870, to 1876. - I consider it desirable, that I should apprise you privately, on the subject, so that you, and I, who are so much (jointly) interested in the protection of these Salmon streams, may at some convenient and early time of day, get soon together, and fix some more moderate scale of yearly expenditure to go by; - As Economy is the Order the day, I do think, when I give you my views on the subject, you will agree with me; such is the subject matter, that induces me to write you, more particularly on this present occasion as I would like to have you coincide with my plans, before I lay the same before Mr. Whitcher, for his approval. - - please write, and say! if you can meet me in Toronto on Tuesday next, and the hour, and place, and I will come there, and see you. -

Yours fraternally,

Johannes W. G.

J. G.

P.S. - The ship I cut from the Hamilton line of Monday last, sent from Ottawa by their Correspondent there. -  
29. March 1877. - Johannes W. G.



31, March 1877.

Sir, In obedience to your instruction, I now beg most respectfully to send you herewith a Return of persons who paid the sum of one dollar, &c., for the privilege of spearing Starling in Dundas Marsh, and Burlington Bay, during the month of November 1876.

The Stables

I have, &amp;c. &amp;c.

The Minister &amp;c, &amp;c,

John W. Stern J. O.

No.	Names.	Amount.		Remarks.
		\$.	¢.	
1.	Charles Thompson	1.	00.	
2.	Joseph Amos,	1	00.	
3.	Henry Redman.	1	00.	
4.	James English.	1	00.	Refer to my letter, 13,
5.	David Stock,	1	00.	November last, Bank
6.	William Stock,	1	00.	cheque \$25.-
7.	James Bindell,	1	00.	Total \$10.-
8.	George Cooke.	1	00.	
9.	John Wiers.	1	00.	
10.	John St. Cummings.	1	00.	
11.	John Everett.	1	00.	
12.	John Anderson.	1	00.	
13.	George Elliot Harris,	1	00.	Refer to my letter
14.	Charles Smith.	1	00.	18, November last,
15.	Nelson Brown,	1	00.	Bank cheque \$38.
16.	George Skuse,	1	00.	Total \$9.-
17.	Charles Shears.	1	00.	
18.	Charles Millen.	1	00.	
19.	Frank Mills.	1	00.	
20.	David Dennis,	1	00.	
21.	Robert Little,	1	00.	
22.	Thos. Oliver,	1	00.	
23.	Edward Moran,	1	00.	Refer to my letter of
24.	George Campbell,	1	00.	23. November last.
25.	Samuel Swank,	1	00.	Bank cheque \$50.
26.	Mar Cummings,	1	00.	Total \$13.-

27	David Blaine	1	00	
28	Charles Gables.-	1	00	
29	Levi Baker.	1	00	
30	James Maguire.	1	00	
31	St. J. Shaver,	1	00	
32	John Book.	1	00	
33	Brooks Lyons.-	1	00	
34	Wm Lyons.-	1	00	
35	David Bickel.	1	00	
36	John Lyons.-	1	00	
37	Wm Raspberry.-	1	00	Refer to my letter
38	John Baker	1	00	24. Nov; last,
39	Jack O'neil,	1	00	Bank cheque
40	Wm Hopkins.	1	00	No: 56.-
41	Columbus Hopkins	1	00	Total \$13.-
42	Barney Rouse.	1	00	
43	Wm Staples.	1	00	
44	John Holmes.-	1	00	
45	Wm Deaver.-	1	00	
46	Mat: Thompson.-	1	00	St. paid.
47	Andrew Adams.-	1	00	
48	Benjn Brickmore.	1	00	Refer to my
49	Wm McDonald,	1	00	letter, 1st Dec; last,
50	Gas: A. Brown.-	1	00	Bank cheque No: 65.
51	Gas: Cummings.	1	00	Total. \$5.504
52	James Webster	---	50	

Sir,

31. December 1877. -

In obedience to your instructions, I now beg most respectfully to send you herewith, a Return of persons, who paid me the sum of One dollar, for the privilege of spearing Bass, and pike in Dredas Marsh, and Burlington Bay, from 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, until the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March inclusive, from the Department.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

I have &amp;c &amp;c.

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

John W. Starnes,  
Fishery Overseer.

No.	Names.	Amount.	Remarks.
1.	William Yarr.	1 00.	
2.	James Yarr.	1 00	
3.	Elmer Aepress.	1 00	
4.	Jeremiah Studson.	1 00.	
5.	Nicholas Grayley.	1 00	
6.	Edward Frank.	1 00	
7.	Starry Bryant.	1 00	
8.	John Blaine	1 00	
9.	John Guley.	50	a boy.
10.	Ramsay Wells.	1 00	
11.	Thomas Lapoint.	1 00	
12.	Andrew Croft.	1 00.	
13.	Wm Henry Waterbury	1 00	
14.	John Stargle.	1 00	
15.	John Daines.	1 00	
16.	William Bates.	1 00.	
17.	John Bates.	1 00	
18.	David Everett.	1 00	
19.	Wm Hamilton.	1 00.	
20.	W. Faulkner.	1 00	
21.	Lewis Mills.	1 00	
22.	Wesley Kirkendall	75	
23.	Nathan Carrol.	1 00.	

24.	Charles Moran,	1	00.
25.	Joseph Maloue,	1	00.
26.	Charles Cripps,	1	00.
27.	Thomas Greenway,	1	00.
28.	Joseph Gates,	1	00.
29.	Thomas Jones.	1	00.
30.	Charles Smith - (2)	1	00.
31.	John Reid,	1	00.
32.	Wm Shewmaker,	1	00.
33.	John Wesley Malouie.	1	00.
34.	Edward Stoussago,	1	00.
35.	Fred <sup>K</sup> Lockman,	1	00.
36.	John McBoile,	1	00.
37.	Robert Wright,	1	00.
38.	Alarou Mouden.	1	00.
39.	George Went,	1	00.
Total,		\$38	25

I will remit this amount shortly. -

Yrs Obly John W. Kent,  
J. O.

Tuesday, - 3<sup>rd</sup>, April 1877. -

At St. Bathurmes, and Niagara - delivered the  
License to Jas. A. Miller Esq<sup>r</sup> for the St. Bathurmes  
Fish and Game Society - who wrote some attes-  
tation - which he wanted to be substituted therein -  
and he asked me to initial them - my reply was, I  
would back license to dept to do so. - We  
then pencilled a notice, which he wanted me  
to sign - this I informed him I would also sub-  
mit to the dept for permission to do also. -  
He paid me \$20. license fee. Peter Kalk, paid me  
\$5. for his seine hauling ground, there on the  
Niagara, of up Jas. Duggan his boats, seine  
ropes, line, and Wadlows (2) received from J. O.  
15, American money, - out at 8 am,

was in at 6 p.m.  
Philas - 48. Ray gave 80, dinner 40,  
tea and bed 50, Stage fare 20.



Sir.

24. March 1877.

I have the honor to receive yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> instant, in which you say: "Please state distinctly whether the limits of the fishing station which you have recommended should be licensed to Peter Bath, will in any manner interfere with the ground already licensed to the St. Catharines Fish and Game Club,"

In reply I beg most respectfully to send you a copy of the license you have granted to the Game and Fish Club; thus! - "Part of Lake Ontario at Port Dalhousie, and including the waters of twelve, fifteen and sixteen mile creeks; to extend 200 yards from west pier, and 200 yards in frontage of Welland Canal or 12 mile creek;" "On condition that no nets of any kind be used within such limits." "The Club moreover binding itself to guard and protect the above named waters at its own private cost."

Now according to this description - the fishing ground I recommended to be licensed to Peter Bath, would be outside of the 200 yards from the west side of the west pier. - Peter Bath - lives on the beach; and the outer end of the west pier, from the beach, is, I should think about 600 yards from his dwelling. - A buoy might be anchored 200 yds west from the end of the pier to keep him off the bounds of the Fish and Game Club license ground.

I am well aware that Mr. James Miller - Marriette, an Active Member, of the St. Catharines Game and Fish Club does not desire that Peter Bath, should get a license to fish there. But as between man, and man, I cannot, and will not object against Peter Bath, on that account.

I wish to keep free and independent of both, and so raise the catch of fish, to a favourable standard. - I give you the case precisely as it is, and its entirely now, for you to decide. - Peter Bath, has been unfortunate, and served some time in the Central

Toronto, being convicted for theft; - It is said, that he came out therefrom a Jew man, - Since I presume why! - James Morris Esq<sup>r</sup>, M. P. Johnson Gregory, the Reeve, - John Lawrie, Esq<sup>r</sup>, J. P., and 24 others recommended him to your consideration for this license. - They wish to as the saying is, to give Peter another chance; and altho I would know Mr. Morris, Mr. Lawrie, and Mr. Gregory - if I saw them, I have no personal acquaintance with them, nor the other petitioners. - - -

I have therefore the honor to recommend the prayer of the petition to your favourable consideration: - - - "God willeth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should return from his wickedness and live" -

With due respect,  
I Have &c.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa,

John D. West  
H. O.

Wednesday, 4. April 1877. -

at Niagara - saw James Longhurst, and told him his license fee, would be \$15. for this season, he promised to send the money to me. - Breakfast <sup>25</sup>, dinner <sup>40</sup>, Railway fare <sup>80</sup>, Conveyance from Niagara to St<sup>l</sup>. Catharines <sup>1.25</sup>, Miles 48. - \$ 2.70

Thursday 5. April 1877. -

On N. beach, to give out pike gill net licenses, to the Resident fishermen there, - went out at 8. a. m. come in at 6. p. m. - Mile 24, Road, bad, Horse and Waggon 1.50. Waggon broke down, paid for repairs - , Alex. Rolles paid 5, and D. Hatch \$4, received no other money. - - - C. J. Kern <sup>1.00</sup>

Sir,

6. April 1877.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, with copy of Col. St. V. Villiers letter, complaining of Mr. Robert Stale, fisherman, for erecting a fence on the fishery Reserve on the Bay side of Burlington Beach, in front of the Colonel's summer residence there. -

In reply I have the honor to report, that there is no likelihood of a grocery or any other kind of a house being erected there. - The facts are these; Messrs. Bartindale and Smith, residents on B. Beach, talked of building such a house as is now alluded to. - Stale on hearing of it, built the temporary fence now complained of, to prevent Bartindale, and Smith, building there. - The place is claimed by Stale's mother in whose possession it has been for 35 years. -

The lot, "taking in the Reserve," is four chains, and eleven links long, the fence is placed one chain and twenty nine links from the water edge of the Bay; on the north west end, and there is no end fence here. - On the south east end the front fence is one chain and seventy links from the water edge of B. bay; so that you will please observe that there is nothing to complain of as regards the fishery reserve proper. - The object for which the fence was constructed, "merely posts with a board nailed to their upper end" being accomplished, all will be taken away again immediately, and stop trifling complaints.

I Have, &amp;c.

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

Robert Stale

D. O.

Sat.

7. April 1877.

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank Cheque No. 412, for the sum of Forty eight dollars, being license fees for Current year; as follows:

No. 1.	The St. Catharines Fish and Game Club.	\$ 4
		20.00,
" 2.	Peter Bath, Seine hauling license at Pt. Walhouse, in Lake Ontario.	5.00,
" 3.	James Fitzgerald, of Lewiston, N.S. Seine hauling license in Niagara River, - fixed by me at \$15, I now send you. - - -	14.00,
" 4.	Alex. Rollo, M. Bach pike gill net license to fish 700 yards in M. bay, per limits herewith. - - -	5.00,
" 5.	David Gitch, M. Bach pike gill net license to fish 500 yards, in do. - 5. - I now send you.	4.00
Total: \$		48.00

I Have &amp;c,

Yours: Minister,  
Y. Y. Y.

John W. Kerr  
F. O.

Friday, 6. April 1877. -

In consequence of letters received from the Fishery department, about N. & M. Birch, and Canal Reserve, and Capt. F. V. Villier, and Bob Stale's fence complained of as built on Fishery Reserve, - went there at 8. am. Came back at 5.30. p.m. - went round by the straight gave Ben Stale his license to fish for pike 600 yds. 5 per mile. - - - Miles 26. 47 W. 1.50. dinner for self and Ned 50. Made certain measurements. - - - my Report of 6<sup>th</sup> of April herewith.



Sir,

6. April 1877.

I have the honor to report, that I visited Mr. Bel this day, and I found that Mr. J. Birley, owner of the Ocean House there, which is on the Canal Reserve, has removed his stable, and is now having it rebuilt again, on the fishing Reserve Mr. Bay which he only holds under an annual license for fishing purposes from the Department. - This stable is 24 ft 5 inches long - and 24 ft 10 inches wide. The back of the stable only stands 14 ft from the water edge of the Bay. - Then there is a diving shed just commenced to be built, south of the stable, this is 51 ft long, 17 ft 2 inches wide, and the back of this shed is only 21 ft from the water edge.

Now according to the rule laid down by you, this is contrary to fishing usages, more especially as I may tell you, that I had not the slightest intimation of the erection of these buildings, until I went down there myself today. - Then again! Mr. Birley's man - who has pruned and cut off, a quantity of willows branches, has placed these branches for several yards long, in the waters along Mr. beach, in his annual licensed fishing ground, - so that seine hauling could not be carried on there at present, thus damaging and injuring the fishing ground, see Section 14. -

Where all this has been done, and is now being carried on, is without the Canal Reserve; Captain Campbell, the Light House - Keeper - made the measurements of the buildings with me to-day. - I have notified Mr. Birley, that I have laid these matters before you, for consideration. - With much respect,  
Yours, Sir,

I Have &amp;c. &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
J. W. Kerr

Notified Mr. R. R. Waddell Esq. on Mr. Birley's agent, and Mr. Birley personally. - 7th April 1877

Sir,

7. April 1877.

I have the honor to send you the copy of a document Mr James A. Miller, St. Catharines placed before me to sign, last Tuesday, that he might get copies printed for distribution. --

I told Mr Miller, I would submit the document just for your consideration. --

With due respect

Hon: Minister,

Y. Y. Y.

I Have &c.

John W Kerr  
D.O.

Sir,

7. April 1877. --

I have the honor to send you back the license granted by the department to The President Director, and members of the Peninsula Irish and Gause Club - St. Catharines, with some interlining made therein by Mr James A. Miller of St. Catharines, which he wants sanctioned by the department. --

The license without these alterations is the same as it was last season. --

This half mile asked for, in Lake Ontario should not in my humble opinion be granted under any consideration; -- Mr Miller wanted me to initiate the red ink alteration, but I said I would just submit back the license for your consideration and approval. With due respect,

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister,

Y. Y. Y.

John W Kerr  
D.O.

Sir,

7, April 1847.

I had the honor to submit for your consideration, on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March last, a petition from the Seine hauling fishermen of Niagara, and its vicinity, whose names were signed thereto, praying for certain privileges to be granted by you to them, as therein set forth and prayed for. . . .

As the time is fast approaching, when Seine fishing will commence on the Seine hauling grounds, for which the indulgence was prayed for. . . .

Will you be pleased to grant the prayer of the petition. . . . The fishermen at Niagara, are differently situated from those fishermen who live in the interior. Americans for instance fish during all close seasons; pickeral for instance will be in force in a few days - and for bass it will immediately follow; together with the causes set forth in the petition, make it a matter for serious consideration, so much so, that I had not the slightest hesitation, in recommending, and laying the petition before you, and recommending it to be granted. -

I Have, &amp;c.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

John W. Kerr

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries.

D. O. -

Ottawa, -

P. S. - Some of the fishermen, at Niagara, who have nothing to fall back upon, are in debt, and poor every spring, until fish (supplies) are caught. -

John W. Kerr

Notice to B. beach fishermen, -

Fishermen must not set their gill nets across the mouth of any of the inlets, that are named in their Licenses, because the Fisheries Act, is opposed to it.

Hamilton, Onto.

5<sup>th</sup> April 1877. -

By Order,

Johull Kerr

Fishery Overseer,

Notice to B. Beach Fishermen,

It having been reported to me that the Pike gill nets of some fishermen were robbed of the fish, on, as is supposed on last Sunday night. -

To stop in future all such disgraceful conduct I hereby give notice, that all gill nets set within the limits described in each License, of that part of B. bay, so set apart, for pike gill net fishing must henceforth, be lifted, and fished up before 6 o'clock, p.m., on every Saturday evening - and that the same must be set out again until after 6 o'clock a.m., the following Monday morning, as per sub section 1 of Section 13, of the Fisheries Act.

Hamilton, Onto.

9. April 1877.

By Order,

Johull Kerr

F.O.

Saturday 7. April 1877.

On B. bay - regulating gill net fishermen, went out at 11. p.m., came in at 16.30. p.m. Miles 16. H & W Boat, Charles John Kerr, 1.50 was with me. - - -



My dear Sir,

11. April 1877.

I am just in receipt of yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> instant, enclosing me one dollar, for the privilege of spearing pike in Dundas Marsh.

In reply, I beg to return you, your one dollar bill herewith, and I am to inform you, and all concerned; that no spearing will be permitted in Dundas Marsh, or Burlington Bay, before next November, prior to which the necessary notices of last year, will be again published in the Dundas Banner.

Joseph Proctor Esq  
Wentworth Brewery.

I am, Y<sup>rs</sup> Respectfully,  
John W. Kerr

Dundas. Onto- and

D.O.

H. C. Allson Esq

W. H. H.

Dundas. Onto

Monday 9. April 1877.

✓ On B. bay. - searching inlets for nets, in consequence of gill nets being plundered and robbed issued an notice this day see page 243, visited S. P. Stipe's saw a gill net in front of Lobbidges inlet. - ordered Jacob Corey. to remove it, - searched all the inlets we could get into. went out at 9. A. M. came in at 4 P. M. - Miles 20. Boat, Horse and Wagon. C. J. Kerr with me.

b. f. Kerr 1.50

Mr.

12, April 1847,

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> instant, in reply to my letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> instant, regarding the petition of the Niagara fishermen. - -

Your decision, I am sure will be most thankfully received by the Niagara fishermen. -

You are pleased to say; "Your report of the 7<sup>th</sup> inst. recommends the above to the favorable consideration of the department?" "Does this mean that you want to be allowed to fish during the whole close time for pickerel and bass?"

In reply I certainly say No! The fishermen don't mean to retain any pickerel they may haul in - they must liberate them again, unless it should appear, that they have already spawned out, which I believe will be early this season, during close time set apart for pickerel. - - As for bass! I don't suppose, 20 bass, are caught by the gill hauls during close season at Niagara, and they are all liberated.

It is always very late in the season, after seine hauling is over, when bass spawn at Niagara. - - White bass, I may state are very numerous, but there might be no objection made to the catching of them. I state these facts, but at the same time leave the matter, entirely for your decision,

Yours  
S. A. B.

The Minister

Ottawa.

I have the

honour to

Yours

My dear Sir,

You are hereby authorized to fish pike gill nets in the Stumber and Minico, and for doing which, this is your authority - until I obtain for you a license on proper form. -

Y<sup>th</sup> - He,

Colonel -

Mr O. S. Hicks

Stumber Boat House,

Minico P. Office,

B. O.,

Brandon, Minn.

13. April 1877.

Sir,

12. April 1877.

I have the honor to receive your Telegraph dated 11<sup>th</sup> instant, thus: "Represented that pike gill nets are set across mouth of Lottbridges inlet, ascertain facts, and report by letter,"

In reply, I beg most respectfully to report that W. H. Corey, - fisherman of B. beach, who has received a pike gill net license, but being poor, has not paid for it yet, to fish in B. bay. - Upon the recommendation of Messrs. Union P. Stipe and John Bates two of the owners, licensed last year; He came from the Beach, and commenced fishing in front of Lottbridges inlet, in Barton, which is just beside Mr. Stipes residence on B. Bay. - This so displeased Mr. Lottbridge - son to the proprietor of the farm, Mr. Thomas Lottbridge, who is an old, and very worthy man, in which the inlet is situated because he was not allowed to fish there himself that Mr. Stipe, from threats made by Mr. Lottbridge - advised Corey, to fish according to law.

I issued the following notice for the guidance of the fishermen thus!

Notice to B. Bach Fishermen,  
 Fishermen must not set their gill nets  
 across the mouth of any of the inlets that are  
 named in their licenses, because the Fisheries  
 Act is opposed to it.

Hamilton.

5. April 1877.

May Order,

John W. Kerr

J. W.

I may here state, for your information, that  
 this inlet, now referred to, is about 200 yards wide  
 at the mouth; Outside the mouth on each  
 side of the open water, fronting on the bay, there  
 is a marsh, which is about 15 or 20 yards wide  
 from the open water to the bank of the inlet, on  
 each side, with a depth of from one to two  
 feet of water, wherein the pike play or spawn,  
 but no part of the net, was set in these marshes  
 than the net complained of. For 15 yards had no  
 web nothing but the lead, and cork lines, so  
 that about 65 yards or upwards of the water  
 in front of the inlet, on the east, and the west  
 side was free for the passage of the fish.

This is all spite work, on the part of Wm  
 Lottbridge, because prevented from catching pike  
 with gill nets in his own inlet, for which he  
 says - he pays taxes, as he states, but which I  
 believe is doubtful, besides Wm Lottbridge claims  
 ownership in the waters of B. bay - for 150 yards  
 further outwards, than where Corey, had the gill  
 net set. - In my rounds on B. bay on Tues-  
 day last, I drew the attention of Corey's son,  
 to this gill net, and ordered him to remove it,  
 and run it right out in to the Bay, and not  
 in front of the inlet, but he not comply-  
 ing with the order, I went there myself,



on yesterday, and finding it had been shored by the ice towards the mouth of the inlet, I took up the net up altogether. - And today I ordered T. H. Corey, to remove the remainder altogether from there, and I fined him \$1. and 50¢, costs. - There was no disposition, on the part of Corey - to do wrong, hence why the fine is so trifling, -

I may have state, ever since I served Wm Lotbridge with the following notice per your order, I have been abused, threatened, and misrepresented all round the Community, continually. I have a back to bear it all. -

Copy of Notice follows here  
See back to page 220. -

Here is how, I find my diary reads for Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April 1876 - last year, - Thence up Lotbridge's inlet, found three gill nets running from one side to the other, of said inlet, saw Simon N. Stipe, gave order to leave  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the inlet open in future, and I even done more, I placed these gill nets on that occasion, in that proper position myself,

These three gill nets were Wm Lotbridge's.

And in my diary for Tuesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> April 1876, was in the same inlet, saw Stipe and Wm Lotbridge, gave them advice about not setting their pike gill nets across the entire inlet, as it was against the law...

Wm Lotbridge having read in the Hamilton Times, that pike gill nets were to be in future 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches extension measure, cut a piece out of Corey's old pike gill net, - and he lost temper, because I would not fine Corey for fishing out his old gill net; I read and explained to him your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> of March last on that subject.

I may mention to you, that on Saturday last, George Blue's, saw a gill net set across, Depews River, and I have since learned, that this gill net, belonged to Wm Lottbridge - No other person, but him had a boat in Depews river, at the time, and no other boat could get there, because of the ice in the Bay.

I may mention to you that he has said that he is determined to catch, and gill pike, when he was referred to your order. —

I believe he has been clandestinely fishing, and I may further state that Wm Lott, has since he received notice that his license would not be renewed for this year, proposed to furnish pike to one of the persons who like him received a similar notice, provided; this person would pay him \$2.50 & half of the price, a new pike gill net, he had got up for fishing this season. —

In giving you all these facts, I have no other object in view beyond that of obeying your orders. —

I Have, Sir,

Hon. Minister,  
Y. Y. Y.

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

S. p. Steffen,  
==

My dear Sir,

Yours received with one dollar enclosed, for the privilege of spearing pike in Dundas Marsh; This is not in my power, because the Gs department has notified me that there will be no spearing permitted before next November. - I return your one dollar, herewith, regretting that I cannot comply with your request. -

W. Mallett Key  
Hamilton House,  
Dundas.

Yrs. Truly,  
John W. Kerr  
H. O.  
Hamilton

14. April 1877.

Wednesday, 11. April 1877.

✓ At Lottbridges Inlet - found G. H. Corey's gill net - in front of the inlet, - forced in by the ice - took a portion of it up, all I could get at with the ice - asked Mr. Stepe to send G. H. Corey to me in the morning, when he came to lift and overhaul his gill net. - went there in compliance with Telegram I received from Mr. W. J. Whitaker, went out at 6. p.m., came in at 12. M. night 4. + 1/2 Boat, Miles 12. C. J. Kerr with me. - C. J. Kerr. 1:00 AM

12<sup>th</sup> On Thursday I found G. H. Corey. - See my report. -

251

17. April 1877.

I have the honor to send you, Bank cheque No. 447. - for the sum of 107.<sup>50</sup>/<sub>100</sub>. This amount you will please apply for this current season as follows: —

- No. 1, Mr. Pat Gray - For seine hauling ground in L. Ont. Commencing west of the Shumbar Bridge - thence west along the beach for a distance of 500 yards, to be used a hook at, and muller seine hauling ground - 250 of seine and to extend outward within the grain points for a distance of 300 yards - please send licence, - 10.00.
- 2, Mr. Pat Gray - For licence of the Toronto Island fisheries, - a proper description will be shortly sent you. - wh. f. is 250 long, 20.00
- 3, Mr. David Ward, For licence of the Toronto Island fisheries - a proper description will be shortly sent you. - Has two seines 250 yards each - 20.00
- 4, John Junsell, For licence to fish in Ashbridge bay, - 1800 yards of pike gill net. Same as last year - fished only 1000 yards to end on 1<sup>st</sup> May. - 10.00
- 5, Wm. Montgomery - For licence to fish in Ashbridge bay - 800 yards of pike gill net, to end on 1<sup>st</sup> of May - same as last year, 10.00
- 6, John Morley, For licence to fish 3,300 yds. salt front gill nets in L. Ontario same as last year 15.00
- 7, Ben. Golds - fishing 500 yards, pike gill net, nets in B. bay - description already sent of the limits, - 5.00
- 8, John Laaffe, for fishing 500 yards pike gill net in B. bay, - do, do, - 5.00
- 9, Ric. Laaffe, for fishing 500 yds pike gill nets in B. bay. - do, do, 5.00
- 10, Robt. Fletcher and Wm. Depew, for fishing 500 yds of pike gill nets in B. bay. do. - 5.00

Carried up \$ 105.00



Carried up - 105.00

11. Mortimer Carey. - For fishing 250 yards of  
pike gill net in M. bay. - 2.50

Total \$107.50

With due respect

Hon. Ministers

H. H. H.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Sir,

18. April 1877,

I have the honor to send you herewith Bank cheque  
No: 463, for the sum of ten dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
as follows:

1. Mr William Cowan - for Seine hauling license in  
Lake Ontario, near the mouth of the Rouge. The li-  
cense to be the same, as that issued to him, for the  
year 1875. - 5.00

2. Mr Joseph Black - for Seine hauling  
license at Frenchman bay - in L. Ontario,  
same as last year, on a/c. 5.00

Total, \$10.00

Hon. Ministers

H. H. H.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Sir,

18. April 1877.

I have the honor to report for your information - that I had Mr Robert Mead, Proprietor of the Mead House - Toronto Island, up before Alexander Macnab Esq. Police Magistrate, for fishing a piece of pike gill net in Meads pond, Toronto Island, last Sunday, and catching therewith one pike.

Mr Mead, was fined \$2, which he paid; I believe he might have the fine reversed, he is a friend of the Island Fisheries.

With due respect

Hon. Minister,  
 & & &  
 Ottawa,

I Have &c,

John W Kerr  
 J. O.

Saturday, 14. April 1877. -

Wm Lofbridge, had G. H. Corey, up before James Cahill Esq. J. P. - for the same offence, for which I fined him - He was fined \$10. and Costs. -

Thence to Toronto, and the Island went out at 8. a. m. came in at 6. p. m. Miles 48. Boat 50<sup>¢</sup>, driver 50<sup>¢</sup>. Railway fare \$1. was examined at Corey's Wharf.

Went from Toronto Island to Ashbridge bay. - J. Gunsell - paid me \$20. for the pike gill net license there.

driver tea and bed \$1.00. 75¢

Sir,

12. April 1877,

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Friday last, Wm Ward, son of Mr David Ward, licensee of the Toronto Island - fisheries - with his crew of four men, made a clean sweep, with a seine, of all the inside ponds - thereby catching and killing several hundred young pike (fish) bass, perch, and sun fish.

I had been up before Alex: Macnab Esq<sup>r</sup> 10. M., on Monday last, who fined him - five dollars - without costs, which he paid. - The crew were let off. - -

You may remember, you asked me last winter, if the fishermen on Toronto Island, were catching young fish with nets set under the ice - see my letter of 17, January 1877. -

I consider a good reprimand to Wm Ward, coming from you, would be beneficial in its results.

With due respect

Hon: Ministers

H. H. H.

I have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Y.

Sunday 15. April 1877. -

On Toronto Island, - examined the ponds, and found where Billy Ward, and crew had hauled David - paid me \$20. - on acct of license fee and Pat Gray - paid me \$10. on acct of the Island fisheries, and \$10. for the Chamberlain's - went out at 9. A. M. Came in at 2. P. M. - Prince Barnes with me, Miles 10. - Breakfast, dinner tea and bed \$1 -

Scrip.

18, April 1877.

I have the honor to report, for your information, that on last night, accompanied by my son Charles, — I searched for gill nets in Secord's Cove, — where I found a gill net, set from bank to bank. — In Gages inlets, I found two gill nets — set contrary to the Fisheries Act, and the terms of the Licenses granted by you. —

In each of these gill nets, I found a few pike and bass. — I seized them, and took them home. —

There is great indignation, expressed by the farmers, against M. Bach fisherman, because they enjoy the privilege of fishing under your authority as the farmer, exclusive in water for which they pay taxes; hence! very small things, are so much magnified. — I, as a matter of course come in, for my share of the bad language floating round; But in endeavouring to do my duty, as between the department, and the fisherman in this instance Ben: Golds, and Dan: McFoyne, or their assistants (2.) who are guilty of the offence: I recommend that the 3. gill nets seized, by me, be restored by you, the owners to pay the expense of seizure; I will endeavour to keep down expenses. — and please reprimand them. — With due respect,

I Have &amp;c.

Hon: Minister  
H. H. H.

John W. Kerr  
D.O.



Sir,

18. April 1877.

I have the honor to receive yours of the 14<sup>th</sup> inst, in reference to the altering the limits of the License granted to S<sup>r</sup> Leatheries Irish and Game Club. -

It is just the same, altho' not specified in the license that they have had in part of the 15 and 16, mile ponds, - where there is a large grass bed, a resort for perch.

The East pier of the Welland Canal, will not affect any fisherman, so that you may include it in the license.

I do not see any objection in the way, of giving all that is asked for, omitting therefrom the small seine hauling ground, commencing 200 yards from the West pier already licensed to Peter Bath, for this season. -

It might not be out of place to charge an additional five dollars, for the further privileges asked for. - With due respect

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr

J. W.

Hon. Minister,

H.

H.

H.

Monday 16. April 1877. -

Had W<sup>m</sup> Ward and Robert Mead, up before Alex Macenah Esq<sup>r</sup> Police Magistrate, Ward was fined 5, and Mead 2, without costs, as per my reports, - went out at 7. A. M. Came in at 6.30. P. M. Miles 48. Railway fare 1. Breakfast and dinner 7<sup>5</sup>

Tuesday, 17. April 1877.

On B. bay - Seined 3 pike gill nets, as per my report - went out at 6. P. M. Came in at 4, A. M. - Miles 20, C. J. Kerr<sup>1.50</sup> with me - Boat 14<sup>5</sup>

Charged nothing for myself

Sir,

23. April 1877.

I have the honor to receive from you, the letter, copy of Mr. Wright, dated St. Catharines, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, applying for a license to fish, between Port Dalhousie, and Niagara, in Lake Ontario; besides asking many questions about fishing, and telling you, to whom he is a relative.

As for Mr. Wright, having a license to fish, this is not correct. Mr. Wright I may say; is the son of a British Admiral, he is brother-in-law of Senator Alex. Vidal - and has a brother in the Adjutant General's Office, - but Mr. Richard Miller - Barrister St. Catharines, who is referred to, in his letter, stated to me, that Mr. Wright is not in his right mind, and this is the mildest language I desire to put it in. - He is very poor, and has no means whatever to go into fishing such as he writes you about. - He was employed for several years - as Mail Guard, on the Welland Railway - but it is some time since he was discharged. -

But if he can raise means and men, he can have a license to fish, between Port Dalhousie, and the Big Mile Creek, - in Lake Ontario, at the rate of \$20, for this current season. please tell him to apply to me.

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Hon: Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

Sir,

23. April 1877.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Friday last, in the 15 mile pond, I found your pieces of pike gill net, set, say; about 120 yards altogether. -- In the nets, I found a pike, a perch, a bass, and a small cat fish and sucker. -- I understand these nets belong to Eli Gregory, Nelson Overholt, and Wm. Staines farmers who live in the neighbouring township of Louth: -- In the 16 mile pond, I found Peter Davis, Charles W. Davis, the sons of a respectable farmer living in the township of Louth; and Alexander Grass, of the same place, hauling a small New Seine, about 25 yards long, I seized and confiscated these nets. --

Nets are not allowed to be fished in the 15 and 16, mile ponds - please refer to the License you granted to the St. Catharines fish and game club. --

Then again, at the Waste gate - Welland Canal, or Twelve mile Creek, - St. Dalhousie, I found Thomas Harrison, and Frank Dickson - residents there, fishing dip nets - Dickson caught a pickerel, which I compelled him to liberate, and I ordered them, to take up their dip nets, and go home. --

I saw Sheriff Woodruffe, as I passed through St. Catharines, and mentioned the facts to him; as I could not see Mr. James A. Miller - Secretary I must defer reporting further for some days. --

I Have &amp;c.

Hon. Minister  
 & & &  
 Ottawa,

John W. Kerr  
 D.A.

Thursday, 19. April 1877. —

- ✓ Port Erie, and Niagara, went out at 8, a.m. came in at 9. p.m. — Miles 89 ..  
 Railway fare \$3.45, to Buffalo, Railway fare to Niagara \$1.00 & dinner tea and bed \$1. —

Friday 20. April 1877. —

- ✓ Port Dalhousie, the 10, 15, and 16. Mile cks and ponds — for particulars see my reports, went out at 9. a.m. came in at 10. p.m. — Miles 56. \$4 & Bx \$3.00 & Boat and two men \$2, dinner, breakfast tea and bed \$1.00 &

also inspected the German fisheries in the Niagara River — saw Jack Mors, and Alfred Bissell, there, —

Saturday 21. April 1877. —

- ✓ At Niagara, found Joe Masters and John Keith, — Alfred and Charles Ball, had set out there Herring gill nets — the previous night, on Thomas Elliotts Sen's hauling ground, — warned them of the consequences if they went there again. read the law on the subject also the permission granted to H. fishermen, petition, — dated 10. April 1877. went out at 5.30. a.m. miles about 50, —  
 Stage fare 50, breakfast, and dinner 75.

Monday, 23. April 1877. —

- ✓ At Toronto, attended Police Court, see my Report dated 27<sup>th</sup> instant; thence to Toronto Island, — to arrange and fix the limits of the Fisheries on the Island as between D. Ward and Nat Gray. — went out at 8. a.m. came in at 3.30. p.m. — Miles 48. Ry fare \$1. dinner, tea and bed 75. —  
 Boat, 50. —

Eight millions of whitefish have been hatched at the Sandwich beds this season. It still remains to be seen, however, what they will come to.

CONTRAVENTION OF THE FISHERIES ACT. — Inspector Kerr seized a number of nets on Friday in the 15 and 16 mile pond, township of Louth, set therein contrary to the Fisheries Act. Three persons in St. Catharines last Thursday were also taken up for having pickerel in their possession during the close season.



Sir,

17. April 1877.

I have the honor to report - as regards the Toronto Island fisheries - that I am not yet quite prepared to send you a description of the boundaries there, as I wish in future to recommend to you should be established. -

Wm Ward, wants the license to issue in future in his own name, - instead of in the name of his father, Mr David Ward, - - - Then Wm Ward, who fishes 9,500 yards  $7\frac{1}{2}$  and 8" mesh (mash,) Salmon Trout gill net, and has up to this time, caught about \$200, worth of Trout, getting 7¢, per pound, for them, and who fishes 3,500 yards of Cisco gill nets, for self and father wants all to be included in one license at \$30, - for the season, same as Mr P. Gray, who fishes only 2, Seines; while as a matter of fact according to my mind at least, I think he should pay an additional boat license of at least forty dollars. - - - Besides the \$20. now sent you from Wm Ward and the \$20, from Mr P. Gray, for the Toronto Island fisheries, -

Wm Ward, is head strong, wants everything, and to have his own way in particular. - - - While as regards fishing he must just go on as the law directs, and according to your rules and regulations. - - -

I submit the matter for your consideration, and when I receive your advice, I will bring Mr P. Gray, Wm Ward and David Ward - together, and I will then fix how matters must be in future carried on, under defined boundaries and limits. - - -

One thing appears to me certain - that the ponds on the Toronto Island - must be kept in future free from net fishing of all kinds. -

And with much respect,

Hon. Ministers,  
Y. Y. Y.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
T.O.

My dear Moon. -

25, April 1877.

Will you be so good, as to hand the license I send you today to Mr. Joseph Black on his paying you \$5. more; I understand he and Dave Thompson & boy - have been fishing at the Rouge. You tell them to go on their own ground forthwith, Mr. Cowan, has rented the Rouge Seave hauling grounds, &c.

You always had my permission to fish pike gill nets in Skiland Creek ponds, - I send Mr. Cowan is because today, - Joe Black, and Dave Thompson have the presumption of the d. v. -

I am glad to learn you are all right again, who is fishing at the Bay - please let me know at once. You can fish your Swale Seave, -

Yrs. Moon Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Port Union.

Yrs. Sincerely,

John W. Kerr

G. O.

P.S. - Joe Black must pay you off \$5. more for me, before he can fish, no credit given, pay up. -

Yrs. &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

G. O.

✓

Tuesday, 24, April 1877.

Up the Don, - to inspect it, found John (Hallam's) sheep skin - Barney - was allowing lime into the waters of the Don - warned his men (Kendrick &c) to keep it out, and requested him to tell Mr. Hallam that I had called, - went out at 7. A.M. Came in at 10. A.M. Miles 10. Boat, and Boatman, \$1.50, tea, dinner, bed, and tea \$1.00.

My dear Sir,

Yours received, Joseph Black, and Dave Thompson and boy - have no authority on the Rouge River hauling fishery. So drive them off forthwith. I don't want you to let them go there, at all. Keep them, and every one else off. I send your license herewith, read it to them, and tell them to clear out, with my best regards. -

Yours sincerely, -

John W. Kerr

Fishing, Quebec,

25. April 1877.

Wm. Bowman Esq.  
Port Union. -

P.S. - They will be lucky if I don't fine them, when I come down. -

Messrs David Ward, W. Ward - and Pat; Gray - and myself, met to day at 3.30 p.m. at the Gray's - and arranged the limits of the Island fisheries - and that Boat license for Trout, and biscoes - was to be different, and to come under the head of Boat license. - - - See my Report dated 27<sup>th</sup> of April 1877. - -

Wednesday, 25. April 1877. -

On Toronto Island, Toronto and Hamilton, all night, went out at 6.30. a.m. Came in at 11. a.m. Miles 48. Ry gave \$1.00. Breakfast 50. Boat gave 50. -

Sir,

26, April 1877.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
cheque No: 488, for the sum of fifteen dollars.

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for  
this current year, as follows; and send me licenses for,

1. Mr. Isaac Michener - A Seine hauling license, 250,  
yards, to fish in Lake Erie, at the Bolton ditch, Low  
Hanks, to be the same as last season, amount is,  $\$5.00$

2. Messrs. John J. Harris, and Chester A. Harris,  
Fort Erie, - For Seine hauling grounds in the Niagara  
River, at Fort Erie - township of Bertie; That is to say;

as south of the Gilman Road, up the River, as far  
as the Old dock; say for a distance of about  
one mile. - 100 yard Seine, - License fee  $\$30$ , sent on acct  $\$10.00$

With due respect,

Total,  $\$15.00$

Hon: Minister,

H. H. H.

I Have &c.,

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Mr. Gray,

Please find your Stumber  
Seine Hauling license herewith, a fair field,  
and no favour, -

Yr O &c.,

27, April 1877. -

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Wednesday Night, 25, April 1877. -

On B. Bay, Fred Kerr, with me, found no  
gill nets, - went out at 6, p. m. came in  
at 12.30, - Miles 24, Boat,  $\$1.50$

Did not return  
this!

It is said that the Government will issue no  
licenses this spring for spearing fish in the  
Bay. The reason is that during the winter  
season the licenses were so numerous  
and so long in duration that a very  
large quantity of fish was caught.  
The Department feels that as it permitted  
persons at a time when there was little em-  
ployment to catch the fish they could, that it  
is now justified in refusing to continue the  
liberty. Besides, it is thought that such a  
course will be in the interest of the anglers  
and trowlers who claim that that sport has  
been seriously injured.

ILLEGAL SPEARING. - The spearing of pike  
at the present time is, we are assured, en-  
tirely an illegal act, leaving the offender sub-  
ject to a fine of twenty dollars. Spearing of  
any kind has no existence except under  
special licenses (see sub-section 8 of section  
13 of the Fishery Act). The proper time for  
spearing herring commences in November  
and ends in December, and for pike and bass,  
commencing 1st January and ending 31st  
March in each year. Those persons who  
have imagined that they are at liberty to  
spear pike at the opening of Spring should  
not be undeceived.



Sir,

26, April 1877,

I have the honor to report, for your information, that on Monday last, at Toronto, Messrs Wm Wright, David Stirling, David Boyle, John Jones, and Wm Cooke, saw the mill race, on the River Don, situated at Shore Stile, and Fordmond Stile, which is about 16 miles from Toronto, appeared before Mr. E. Love, and Alexander Macnab Esqrs J. P's - "Charged by the Fish and Game Club - Toronto - with allowing saw dust and other refuse to drift, and pass into the waters of the Don which is frequented by fish mentioned in the Fisheries Act." -

I was requested by Alexander Macnab Esq, M. P., and two members of the Club, Messrs Marsh, and Robertson, to attend which I did. -

The Mill Owners through their Solicitor, admitted the saw dust, but asked for time, so as to petition the Minister - to exempt the stream - from the provisions of the Act; - and also that I might under your permission, go and examine and inspect the stream, and report fully to them on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June next, to which date, the Magistrate adjourned all the Cases. - May I make the inspection, they require; and with due respect,

I have &amp;c,

Hon. Minister

John W. Ross.  
J. W. R.

paper 25<sup>¢</sup> and envelopes 30<sup>¢</sup>  
do. 25<sup>¢</sup>

pens 10<sup>¢</sup>postage stamps 30<sup>¢</sup>

My dear Sir,

On receipt of this, I request, that you will fish no more with a seine, in the Niagara River - at Fort Erie; That is to say; in that part of it, lying all south of the Gilmore Road, up as far as the old dock.

Mr. J. Rose.

"Fisherman,

Fort Erie.

John W. Kerr

J.O.

26. April 1874.

Dear Mr. Hutton,

Will you be so good as to hand the enclosed to your boss, Mr. Frank Rose, As no person can fish without a license, I presume Mr. Rose, will have no objection to stop, better yet, let the grounds stay idle, than have him make such fruitless attempts at fishing; An art, I presume he can never learn. With kind regards.

Yrs truly.

John W. Kerr

J.O.

27. April 1874.

P.S. -

and so you have been catching pickeral.

Yrs J. W. Kerr  
J.O.

Sir,

28. April 1877. -

I have the honor to apply to you, for Seine hauling license, for Messrs. David Ward, and Patrick Gray, - of Toronto Island, - for this current year, at the rate of \$40, which amount I have already sent you. - -

"Commencing on the beach, at the channel, where the <sup>Swing</sup> Draw Bridge, originally stood; thence including the head, Jim Crow pond, black house bay, from man-hole to manhole only, - and the pleaskinonge haul," - "For fishing 2 seines, 250 yards long, each, for buckers, and rough fish." - "And nets of no kind can be fished but only at the places, herein above named; all the rest of Toronto bay, and the Island ponds, being set apart for angling." - -

Thence from the gap, around the south shore of the Island, to the extreme end of the point where John Ward - was drowned; and on the main shore, from the Garrison slip, up to the side of the Sturges Bridge." - "This is to be fished with (2) - a fish seines, each 250 yards long. - and if salmon, or small white fish are hauled in they must be instantly liberated." - I hope this description will answer, please send me two copies of the License, one for each, -

I have the

John W. Kerr

Hon. Minister,  
O. T. T.

W. O.

Sir,

28. April 1877.-

I have the honor to apply to you, for a Boat license, for Mr David Ward - Toronto Island, To fish 6,000 yards of Salmon Trout gill nets; and 3,500 yards of Cisco gill nets, in Lake Ontario, between the Humber Bridge, and the Dutch churches, say; about 12 miles, lake frontage, and to extend outwards in deep water, in front of the same for a distance of six miles."

The Trout gill nets, it is agreed, shall be  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " and 8" inches, in extension measure, - and the Cisco gill nets, shall be nothing (less) under  $2\frac{5}{8}$ " - inches extension measure. - The rate of license for this year shall be of 20. dollars. -

In your letter of the 19<sup>th</sup> instant, you say; "How is it, that you allowed William Ward - to fish our Catch of 200. worth of Trout, without a license for the current year?" - To this, I answer, It is usual to allow the old licensed fishermen to commence fishing always before they receive their license - and David Ward, commenced this year, just the same as usual; and at my urgent request, the size of the mesh, was enlarged to  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " and 8" inches extension measure. - -

Mr Whitcher, the Commissioner, will understand that there is a class of large Trout, in all our lakes - particularly, Ontario, - and except accidentally caught by the teeth, or with hooks baited, will never gill in a five inch regulation mesh, no! nor in a six or 7 inch mesh, - hence why, I recommended the increase to  $7\frac{1}{2}$ " and 8" inches. - -

His true Wm Ward, takes charge of the boat's crew, - and landed the 200  $\frac{1}{2}$  Trout



ranging from 10. to 15 pounds each, but David Ward, who is not able to fish, is the man, the licensee, for all that. -

The experiment you will perceive is worth trying by all fishermen using gill nets; So millions of Salmon Trout, and White fish, have grown so large, since gill nets were first introduced, that they can never be caught by the 5" rich regulation mesh. - and can be only caught by  $7\frac{1}{2}$ , 8, and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inch mesh, or with baited hooks. - -

I hope this explanation will meet your approval. - I Have &c.

Yours sincerely,

John W. Kerr

F.O.

My dear Harry, -

Will you be so good, as to keep me a bushel of those choice potatoes you have. - -

James Fitzgerald license is only for Lewis hauling you will still control the hook fishing, for Sturgeon.

Your license this year will be ten dollars, instead of fifteen. - -

I think I will come down shortly, with kind regards to all - and family - believe me - Y<sup>rs</sup>

Paternally, -

Mr Harry Sheppard.

John W. Kerr

Fisherman. -

F.O.

Greenston.

30. April 1877. -

My dear Sir,

I am just in receipt of yours of the 26<sup>th</sup> instant, asking me to send you a copy of Mr James Millers - lease, or if that would be too much trouble, the principal conditions on which his lease was granted. -- It appears to spread the idea, that he holds all the creeks, channels, and certain distance out in Lake Ontario, from here to 20. mile Creek. --

In answer to all this, I may assure you that no license (not a lease) has been ever yet, issued to Mr James A. Miller, of St<sup>h</sup> Catharines. -- The license was applied for, by me on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April instant, but I have not yet received it, -- when I do, I will feel pleasure in complying with your request. -- The license, is usually, issued in the name of the President and Directors of the Peninsula Fish and Game Club, St<sup>h</sup> Catharines. -- It was applied for in the same way - this season, The moment I receive it, I will send you what you ask for. -- Sheriff Woodruff, as the President - has had no name in the license some years. --

Yrs respectfully  
John W. Kerr

Johnson Gregory Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Reeve of  
Port Dalhousie, --

J. O.  
27. April 1877. --

Sir,

27. April 1877.-

I beg most respectfully, to apply to you for Seine hauling licenses - for the undermentioned fishermen for this current season; as follows: -

1, Henry Shppard, - Lusserton - license to fish a 100 yard seine, in the Niagara River - same as last year, at an increase of \$5. say: <sup>\$</sup>10.00,

2, Messrs James Longhurst, and James Robinson, license to fish 100 yard seine in the Niagara River - same as last year, at an increase of \$5. say: - \$5.00,

3 - Messrs Thomas Elliott, and Thomas Moir; license to fish (2) seines 350 yards altogether, limits same, as last season. - 15.00,

4, John Bolton, license to fish a seine 350 yards long, at the (2) Mile Creek, Lake Ontario, same as last year, say: - 15.00,

5, Abraham St. John, license to fish a seine, 400 yards long - in Lake Ontario, at Niagara, - to be the same as last year; say: 15.00,

6, James Cantwell - a license to fish a seine, 400 yards long, at the four mile creek, in Lake Ontario - Niagara - same as last year, 15.00,

There is no money - at present, nor until some of the fish are caught. -

With due respect,

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister,

&c. &c. &c.

I have &c,

John W. Kerr,

Fishery Officer,

Sir,

27. April 1877.

I have the honor to apply to you for seine hauling license to fish for, and catch suckers, and other rough fish, in B. bay, on B. beach, by the undermentioned fishermen during the month of May only. —

1. Thomas Loe's - license to fish a seine 250 yards long, in B. bay, on B. beach, same as last year. — Say: <sup># 4</sup> (the due of 2) 10.00,

2. Dan: McFoyne, license to fish in B. bay - on B. beach - a seine 250 yds long, same as last year. — Cancelled, 10.00,

3. Ben: Golds, - license to fish 250 yard seine - in B. bay, on B. beach, same as last year. — Cancelled, 10.00,

Money to be paid on delivery. —

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

&c. &c. &c.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 1877.

✓ At Toronto, and Richmond Hill: - inspecting Saw Mills - as per instructions from the Fisheries department, went out at 8. A.M. came in at 6.30. P.M. - Miles 72, - Ry fare to Toronto \$1.00 & from Toronto to Richmond Hill 55. - dinner tea, and bed 75. - 54 & Buggies to inspect the Saw Mills, \$1.50 &



My dear Sir,

A copy of your letter to James Macdonald, Esq. M.P. - relative to Saw Mill Owners of the Lake; - has been received by me - from the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister of Marine and Fisheries - via, - with instructions to examine it, and report upon the same. -

I purpose leaving here on Tuesday morning, and will go on by first train to Thornhill or Richmond Hill, or to any other place you - may appoint to have Messrs. David Boyle & Co. - or any one of them to meet me, and pilot me round, -

Will you be pleased to do this for me, and oblige - Y<sup>rs</sup> Respectfully. -

Joseph Jackson Esq.  
Barriester, &c. &c.  
Toronto. -

John H. H. H.  
Fishery Overseer,  
Hamilton, 30. April 1877. -

P. S.

I will call at your office, on my arrival in Toronto. - Y<sup>rs</sup> &c.

John H. H. H.  
&c. -

Wednesday, 2. May 1877. -

At Richmond Hill - Toronto, and Home, - found a quantity of raw fish exposed for sale in Toronto Market; - evidently they were fish that were caught in the ponds on the Island. - went out at 7. A.M. came in at 4.30. P.M. - Miles 60. Stage fare 40<sup>¢</sup>. Street Car Ry 5<sup>¢</sup>. Breakfast and dinner 50<sup>¢</sup>. Railway fare from Toronto to Hamilton \$1.00 & -

My dear Sirs,

Yours received, with Post Office Order - for twenty dollars, - accompanying this you will receive your license together with a notice pointing out to you the close season - for pickeral and bass, &c, which you will please strictly observe, and with my best respects and kind regards, - believe me, -

Messrs John J. and  
Charles A. Harris, -  
Fort Erie.

Yr<sup>s</sup> Truly -  
John W. Kerr -  
J. O.  
3. May 1877.

Copy -

In Niagara River at Fort Erie - in the Township of Bertie South of Glenora Road extending up the river as far as the Old dock, a distance of about one mile. - -

For the privilege of fishing one seine of 100 yards in length, - Fort Erie May 1877.

Thursday, - 3. May 1877. -

On N. beach - in the interest of the Fisheries and to consult fishermen - about fishing set lines for Herring, - and the St. W. Ry - taking sand, for the ballasting of the Ry, - went out at 9, a.m. came in at 3.30. p.m. - Miles 18, Horse and Wagon off 1.50¢

C. J. Kerr

Did not return this!

My dear Sir,

5. May 1877.

Yours received, and I thank am glad to hear from you - and that Mr James Longhurst, has sent or given you his license for \$15, for me. -

I am glad to hear you are catching some fish 30<sup>th</sup> worth. -

The small drag net, I left in your safe keeping is not for sale - and you will please keep it, and the few pieces of gill nets safe for me, as I cannot yet tell how they may be disposed of.

I will send or come down with all the licenses in a few days - with my kind, and warm regards to you and yours, -

Believe me, - Y<sup>rs</sup> Sincerely, -

Mr Thos: Elliott,

John W. Kerr

Niagara,

H. O.

Gentlemen,

Your favour of 2<sup>d</sup> instant just received, Mr W<sup>m</sup> Bowman - has a license to fish a seine in Lake Ontario, at the Rouge, and his license empowers him under Section 13, of the Fisheries Act - to protect his fishing limits, - Mr Joseph Black, to whom you refer, - has no license to fish at the Rouge, he has a license, "at least I sent it to him, or to Mr Joseph Moon for him" to fish in Lake Ontario, between Petty-Coat Creek, and the Harbour at Greuchmans Bay, - He has no authority whatever to fish at the Rouge - Mr Bowman - under a special clause in <sup>his</sup> license <sup>is license</sup> that he will liberate any Salmon he may haul in <sup>and so</sup> can fish at the Rouge, - Joe Black, altho his license did not specify it, - fished at the Rouge last year, caught Salmon, but did not

liberate them - he can never fish at the  
Rouge again, - and if he does not keep  
quiet, I shall recommend his license at  
Frenchmans bay, &c. to be cancelled;

Mr Cowan can drive Black and his party  
off, and can seize his seine net, - Black  
has no business nor authority there what-  
ever, - Moon acted as agent for Black,  
in sending me his license money, but  
Moon's receipt is valueless, except as to  
receiving the money; -

I sent the license to Mr Joseph  
Moon - Port Union - 25 April last - and Mr  
Black must cool down - and fish in the place  
set forth in his license - and I will write to Mr  
Cowan - to seize his net if he trespasses within  
the limits - set forth in his Cowan license. -

Please read Section 13. of the Fisheries  
Act, - Joe Black is trying to mislead you, -  
and with due respect,

I am gentlemen,

Messrs Jarvis & Groves -  
Solicitors -  
Toronto,

Yr obedient St  
John W. Kerr  
J. O.



Sir: —

4 May 1877.

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No: 29-, for the sum of Twenty dollars.

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as balance in full, for the season license granted by you to Messrs. John J. and Charles A. Harris Fort Erie - to fish 100 yard seine in the Niagara River, there -

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister,  
&c. &c. &c.,  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
F.O.

My dear Sir: —

Please find your license herewith, allow no man to haul on your ground - please send me name of person who owns the seine you refer to,

and oblige Yrs &c.

4 May 1877.

John W. Kerr  
F.O.

Monday. 7 May 1877. —

On N. beach, Thomas Joyce - paid me \$8. on acct of his seine hauling in N. bay. — examined the siding put in from the main line on to the beach, and fishing reserve. — please refer to my report herewith, Charles J. Kerr<sup>(1.00)</sup> and G. M. Leray, were both with me — went out at 6 p.m. came in at 12 mid-night, miles 24. Boat, Horse and Mangon, — Did not return they! —

Sir,

4. May 1877.

I have the honor to apply to you for white fish seine hauling licenses, in Lake Ontario, on B. Beh, during this season, and for the under-mentioned fishermen, residents there. -

Station No: 2, Mortimer Corey - 600 yard Seine	
License fee to be - <i>pd</i>	\$ 10.00,
" No: 5, Ben: Golds, 600 yard Seine,	
License fee, to be <i>pd</i>	10.00,
" No: 7, David Fitch, 600 yard Seine	
License fee, to be <i>pd</i>	10.00,
" No: 8, Wm. Rodkins, 600 yard Seine,	
License fee, to be,	10.00,
" No: 9, John Gaffs, 600 yard Seine,	
License fee to be,	10.00,
" No: 11, Dan: McFoyne, 600 yard Seine	
License fee to be <i>pd</i>	10.00,
" No: 13, B. H. Gray - 600 yard Seine,	
License fee, to be	\$ 10.00 +

These licenses will require to be filled up in all particulars - the same as last year. -

I may state that there is no money forthcoming at present, but in the mean time, I recommend that you will be pleased to issue the license at once.

I Have &amp;c.

Hon: Minister

John W. Kerr

T.O.

Copy. -

To the Peninsula Fish and Game Club, St. Catharines. -

Beginning at Port Dalhousie, in Lake Ontario, and including the waters of the 12 mile Creek, as far up as St. Paul street Bridge St. Catharines, and the 15, and 16, mile ponds, as far up as the G. W. Railway. - To extend from a point 200 yards east of the Welland Canal to another point on the beach 200 yards west, and in front thereof, and to extend outwards in Lake Ontario, a distance of 200 yards in front of the piers, including the waters of the Welland Canal and ponds. - Also to extend outward in Lake Ontario, in front of the 15, and 16, mile ponds, for a distance of 400 yards. - On Condition that no nets of any kind be used within such limits. - The club moreover binding itself to guard, and protect the above named waters, at its own private cost. -

Spued 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 1877. - - Fee \$20. -

To the President Directors, and members of the Peninsula Fish and Game Club, St. Catharines. Sent away - on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 1877. To, Sheriff Woodruff, - St. Catharines, -

Sir,

5 May 1877.

I have the honor to report, that Messrs Staunton and Franks, deputy Prov. Land Surveyors, residents in the City of Staunton - are at present engaged making a complete survey of B. beach. -

They have been appointed to do so, by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister of the Interior of the Dominion Government.

I Have &c.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister

John W. Sears

Y. Y. Y.

J. O.

5 May 1877.

I have the honor to receive your letter of 27<sup>th</sup> ultimo, calling on me to explain why I visited the 12, 15 and 18 mile creeks, and licensed nets, and fish, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April last (as) "this department was under the impression, that the St. Catharines Fish and Game Club were bound by their license to protect these waters at their own cost."

In reply, I beg most respectfully to explain that as I crossed the waste gate Bridge on the 12 mile Creek, at Port Dalhousie, on Friday 20 April, I found Frank Dickson (a boy) fishing a dip net, he caught a pickerel, during the few moments I stood there, and I ordered him to liberate the fish, which he did. - It was close season for pickers at the time. - I believe it was my duty to do this, even taking it for granted, that the St. Catharines Fish and Game Club, were bound by their license to protect the waters of the 12 mile Creek, of which the waste gate formed a very insignificant part. - The mere statement in the license without the signature of the President, and Secretary thereto is I presume null and void, and of no effect, and just as I found it to be, as referred to.

On the 13 and 14 mile creeks, I was informed that gill nets, were being then fished there. - I beg to explain, that I acted entirely in compliance with sub section 4, of Section 16, and Section 18, and sub section 2, of Section No: 1, of the Fisheries Act.

The persons who owned these nets, that I seized, not having a license drawn from the Department of Fisheries.



to fish there, as per regulation per Canada Gazette dated Ottawa, Monday, April 12, 1875.

I would not have gone to Port Dalhousie at all, on the occasion referred to, only you sent me copy of Mr Wrights letter, applying for a fishery there, and which in the magnitude of his language stated that a Mr Kinkle fished there, and which I joined upon inquiry. He was mistaken about.

I hope you will find my explanation, here, satisfactory. And you may rest assured, that I have no interest nor object in the fisheries of my division, beyond that of doing my duty.

Hon: Minister: I Have, &c.  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa, John W. Kerr  
Y. O.

My Dr Sir,

5, May 1877.-

It appears Joe Black, has been in Ontario trying to get Messrs Jarnis and Jones, - Solicitors, to enter an action against Mr Wm Brown - because he would not let him seine fish, at the Rouge.

Now! it appears, Joe Black, rests his claim to the Rouge fishery, on the receipt you gave him, for the \$5, license fee.

Has he called for his license - you would be pleased to read it for him, so that he may know, he has no business at the Rouge at all.

Is Annand - going to fish - if so - please send me his license fee.

Yours truly,  
John W. Kerr  
Y. O.

Joe: Messrs Jarnis  
Port Union.

My <sup>to</sup> ~~to~~ Sir.

5. May 1877. -

It appears Joe Black, has been attempting to enter a law suit against you, because you would not allow him to fish on your fishing ground at the Rouge. . . . You done perfectly right, keep him off. - please read Section 13. of the Fisheries Act. -

Jarvis, and Fraser - Solicitors, Toronto, to whom Joe Black, went for advice - wrote me a long letter, from the lies he told them, they must have thought they had a good case against you, but I made their minds easy on the subject. - Keep him off. - Soon, can show you, Black's license. - Allow no man to fish on your seine hauling ground, and if any one trolls in the Rouge - please let me know. -

With kind regards. - <sup>Yrs</sup> Truly. -

Wm Cowan Esq  
Port Union.

Schultz Esq  
J. C.

Wednesday. 9. May 1877. -

At Toronto, the Island - Georgetown, and Erin Village - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 9. p. m. - Miles 116. - Railway fare \$1.75<sup>4</sup>, dinner 25<sup>4</sup>, Boat 50<sup>4</sup>, tea and bed 50<sup>4</sup>. when passing the Stumber - saw person hauling a seine - told Pat<sup>h</sup>, Gray about it. -

Pat<sup>h</sup> reported to me - that he observed two light spearing lights up the Stumber - the night before, mentioned it to Shick - who said it was old stage fare 50<sup>4</sup>.

My Yours,

Sir,

8. May 1877. -

I have the honor to report, that I visited Burlington beach, on last night, between the plain lot, near Wellington Square - and the Burlington Canal, in the Township of Nelson - where I found that the Hudson and North Western Railway - having put in a siding which leads from the main line, on to the beach, and close up to the waters edge of Lake Ontario, has commenced to draw sand and gravel therefrom, to ballast their Railway. - - The place from which this ballast is being taken - is without the Railway boundary - and on the fishing reserve - and within the fishing limits usually licensed each season to Mr Thomas Joyce - a fisherman - on B. beach. -

The track or siding is so close to the waters edge - that a slight blow from the east, driving the water in, on the beach, and undermines the track, and displaced the iron and ties. - - -

As this Company, has it appears such unlimited power on B. beach - I consider it my duty to report these facts just - not knowing, but this Company may have leave to do so, and ask your advice - before taking action against them - for injury, and damage to the Fisheries. -

Hon. Minister,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

D.O.

My dear Sir,

When on B. beach, last night, I observed those Willows still on the your fishing ground. - please have them removed away at once - and get Mr. R. R. Waddell to read for you Section 14. of the Fisheries Act. -

Yours much obliged,

John W. Kerr

J. W.

W. G. Birley Esq

V. V. V.

Hamilton.

8. May 1877.

✓ Thursday, 10. May 1877. -

at Charles Byrne's. George Hughson, and Thomas Bell's - saw mills - letting all the saw dust and rubbish, into the waters of the River Credit - Summoned them up for 9. and 10. o'clock, a.m. - the 11<sup>th</sup> instant went out at 7. a.m. came in at 3. p.m. Miles 28. Horse and Buggy <sup># 4</sup> 1.50. Breakfast, dinner, tea and bed <sup># 4</sup> 85. 2.35

✓ Paid Stulls dinner and for Horse feed <sup># 4</sup> 50. - Wm. Byler Esq acted as Magistrate Rep<sup>d</sup> 14 May

Friday 11. May 1877. -

✓ At Alton, complained to Thos. Russell Esq J. R. of Geo. Ellingham, Wm. Church, John Clarke, Edwin Leeson, and James Harwood, of Caledon, for permitting saw dust, &c. from their saw mills to enter the North Branch of River Credit. See my report, 14. May. - went out at 12. o'clock came in at 7. p.m. Miles 25. H & Buggy 1.50. Supper for three and Horse feed <sup># 4</sup> 1.00, breakfast and dinner <sup># 4</sup> 50, 3.00



Sir -

14 May 1877.

I have the honor to send you herewith, B. & B. Co. No. 68, for the sum of eighteen dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for this current year, as follows;

1. Joseph Black, Rouge Stille, on acct of his white fish seine hauling ground in Lake Ontario, at Frenchman's Bay, and in full, - License received and delivered. 5.00
2. Mr. Annis, License for seine hauling ground in Lake Ontario, at Port Union, (120 yards) and for this current year, herewith, same as last year. - 5.00.
3. - Mr. Thomas Joice, B. Beach, - For seine hauling ground, in B. Bay, 250 yards seine, same as last year, on acct. herewith. - 8.00

Total \$18.00

There is this, in the case of Mr. Thomas Joice, that he is a young man in ill health, a lame and Jew, and three ribs broken - besides having a wife and two small children - wholly depending upon him, as a fisherman, for support,

I Have &amp;c,

Hon. Ministers

John W. Kerr

G. O.

Saturday 12 May 1877.

at Erie Village - Georgetown, Toronto and then went out at 5.30. a.m. came in at 5. p.m. miles 116, , Stage 50<sup>¢</sup>, breakfast and dinner 50<sup>¢</sup>. By fare \$1.75 - See all my reports on this duty, dated 14 May 1877. By fare 1.

but

14. May 1874. -

I have the honor to report for your information that notwithstanding, the West, and both Branches of the River Credit is polluted with saw dust, and mill rubbish, still I am able to report, there are abundance of speckled Trout, therein. - - How much more numerous, when the saw dust, will be completely kept out. - Between Georgetown, and Cheltenham, there are three saw Mills, letting the saw dust go, into the River Credit, which I must visit in a few days, and impose fines. - -

There is Silver Creek, and Standish Creek - branches of the Credit, with saw Mills on them. - letting the saw dust into the streams which unite and enter the main stream of the River Credit, - below, or east of Georgetown. -

Mr. Frank Taylor - Sadler, &c, himself an angler. & informed me that a boy fishing with rod, hook, and line, and worm, for speckled Trout, in the Credit River, above Barbours Paper Mills - caught a Salmon two pounds weight, it was a beauty. - This was at Georgetown, and occurred only last week. - - So that your well conceived and most active exertions will have to be brought into operation at once, as regards the enforcement of the fishing act, in the River Credit. - and which I hope will meet your approval. -

I Have &c,

Yours, &c.

John W. Keane

I have the honor to report, that I had James Hammond, Edwin Leeson, George Ellingham, John Clarke, and Wm Church, Saw Mill Owners, and Proprietors, on the North Branch, of the River Credit, in the Township of Caledon, and County of Peel summoned before Thomas Russell Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. of Alton, on Friday last, at 5 o'clock, p.m. - For permitting Saw dust, and Mill rubbish, to pass into the waters of the River Credit a stream frequented by Salmon, and Speckled Trout, fishes that are named in the Act, the same being illegal, and in contravention of the Fisheries Act."

1. George Ellingham - Alton - was fined \$1. and 50<sup>c</sup> costs, which he paid. - - -
2. John Clarke, Alton, was fined \$1. and 50<sup>c</sup> costs, which he paid. - - -
3. Wm Church, - Cataract, was fined \$1. and 50<sup>c</sup> costs which he paid. - - -
4. James Hammond - Caledon, was fined \$1. and 50<sup>c</sup> costs, he did not however appear. - - -
5. Edwin Leeson, Caledon, was fined \$1. and 50<sup>c</sup> costs he did not however appear. -

They all received due notice, that if they repeated the offence heavy fines would be imposed. -

Wm. Christie

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. A.

Note paper 25<sup>c</sup> and Envelopes 10<sup>c</sup>

Postage stamps - 25<sup>c</sup>

Sir,

14. May 1877.

I have the honor to report that on Friday last, at the Village of Riv in the County of Wellington, I had Messrs George Hughson, Charles Byam, and Thomas Bell, saw mill owners, and Proprietors Township of Caledon, in the County of Peel, summoned up before Wm Tyler, Esq. J.P. - For permitting saw dust, and mill rubbish - to pass into the waters of the River Credit, a stream frequented by Salmon, and speckled trout, fishes that are named in the Act, the same being illegal, and in Contravention of the Fishery Act ??

1. George Hughson - pleaded guilty, and was fined \$5, and <sup>+</sup>75 Costs, which he paid. -
2. Charles Byam - pleaded guilty, and was fined \$5, and <sup>+</sup>75 Costs, which he paid. -
3. - Thomas Bell, pleaded guilty, and was fined \$5, and <sup>+</sup>2.85 Costs, which he paid. -

The fines \$15, was handed to me, to be disposed of according to law, the costs were retained by the Magistrate, and paid to the Constable.

Since Wm Hughson - moved away from Alton, the upper branches of the River Credit, have been neglected. - From the repeated reports I received latterly, on this head, I had no other alternative left me, but to proceed there, and to act in the manner, I beg herewith to report to you.

Yours Minister  
 & & &

I Have &c,  
 John W. Less  
 J. O.



... to protect the speckled trout, now being fished for on Sundays, and during spawning season.

Mr. Stull, has during the past five years, taken a lively interest in the protection, and propagation of speckled trout. ---

The salary to be placed for the present at \$50, per annum - from 1<sup>st</sup> day of July next. The protection of these Upper waters of the credit, is what induces ---

gauge this man.

on Minister,

of the

of the

I have the

John H. Kern

H.O.



## SALMON ANGLING.

DEPT. OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,  
FISHERIES BRANCH,  
OTTAWA, 8th February, 1877.

Written offers will be received to 1st May next, for the **Salmon Angling Privileges** of the following rivers:

Natashquan (North Shore)  
Trinity (near Point de Monts).  
St. Margaret (en bas).  
Trout (near Moisie).  
Mistassini (near Godbout).  
Beauce do  
Malbaie (near Perce).  
Grand Pabos do  
Little Pabos do  
Tobique (New Brunswick).  
Nashwaak do  
Jupiter (Anticosti Island).  
Salmon do

Rent per annum to be stated; payable in advance.

Leases to run for from one to five years.

Lessees to employ guardians at private cost.

By order,

**W. F. WHITCHER,**

Commissioner of Fisheries.



## LAKE ONTARIO SALMON FISHING.

DEPARTMENT OF MARINE AND FISHERIES,  
Fisheries Branch,  
Ottawa, 15th May, 1877.

### TENDERS WILL BE RECEIVED

until the 25th inst., for SPECIAL LICENCES to use one pound or trap-net, with single "head" or "pot," for catching Salmon, at each of the following fishing stations on Lake Ontario, namely:

No. 1—Grafton Station.—Limits: One mile on each side of Grafton Wharf.

No. 2.—Limits: Between Grafton and Cobourg Stations.

No. 3—Cobourg Station, East.—Limits: Two miles east of Cobourg Wharf.

No. 4—Cobourg Station, West.—Limits: Three miles west of Cobourg Wharf.

No. 5—Port Hope Station.—Limits: One mile on each side of Port Hope Wharf.

No. 7—Port Darlington Station.—Limits: One mile on each side of Port Darlington Wharf.

Time of fishing: from date of license to 15th August next.

Tenders to state amount offered for each station separately; but not more than one license will be issued to the same holder.

Each Station will be rented for a period of five years or less, at the option of Lessor.

Rent payable YEARLY IN ADVANCE, on delivery of License; subject to a percentage of five per cent. on gross value of proceeds, in addition to the fixed annual rent.

Further information may be had on application to the undersigned, or to S. WILMOT, Esq., Newcastle, Ontario.

By order,

**W. F. WHITCHER,**

Commissioner of Fisheries

117-21

Sir,

14. May 1877.

I have the honor to apply to you, for 20,000  
twenty thousand Salmon fry for distribution in  
the River Credit; viz:

Four thousand to be put in the north branch  
below the Cataract four thousand, in the west  
branch below the Village of Erin, - four thou-  
sand at the Falls of the Credit, - and four thou-  
sand in the Credit below Georgetown, where  
Standish Creek and Silver Creek, "united" enter  
the Main Branch of the River Credit, -

I hope you will instruct Mr Wilmut, to  
furnish and distribute this supply as soon  
as possible.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

J.W.

Sir,

14. May 1877.

I have the honor to apply to you, for  
(12) twelve blank notices for Mill owners on  
the River Credit - to put in fishways in  
their mill dams - Every thing requires an  
overhaul in the River Credit.

Yours faithfully,

H. H. H.

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

J.W.

Sir,

15. May 1877.

With reference to my returns of persons spearing  
fish, &c. sent to you, and dated 31<sup>st</sup> day of December last,  
please find now herewith, Bank cheque No: 74  
the sum of Thirty eight dollars, and twenty five cents.  
Hon: Minister,

I have

Mailed receipts - in duplicate - for salary granted  
ending 31<sup>st</sup> of March 1877 - this 15. May 1877.

Johnd W. Kerr

My dear Sir.

Yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant just  
received.

Will you be pleased to find herewith, full  
office order for the sum of Thirty five dollars. -  
Your Agent, Mr Kennedy told me some  
time ago, you were to allow (2) because it, the  
rake, did not self act, as you engaged it would.

However I send the amount of your bill  
in full less 37. -

Yrs Respectfully,

Johnd W. Kerr

A McNeill Esq  
Barton

Lot 6, in 4 Concession  
Barton - Hamilton,

16. May 1877.

Sir.

17. May 1877.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 14. instant, thus: - "Please describe explicitly what injury to the fisheries is occasioned by the Great Western Ry Company, taking sand from B. Beach, as stated in your Communication of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant."

In reply, I have the honor to report, that it is the Hamilton, and North Western Railway - that is taking the sand, gravel, and small stones at present off the fishing reserve - between the old Outlet, B. Beach and the main land, near the Brant House township of Nelson - It is all within a chain at present from the Water edge of Ontario. About 70 Railway Car-loads, are being taken therefrom daily. - It is taken from that portion of the Beach, designated as part of the Brant property, and always enjoyed as a fishing privilege. - I don't think any serious injury will result from the material being taken for the purposes for which it is intended. - -

I however, deemed it my duty and expedient to apprise the department, and I intend to keep a close watch over it, and report to you occasionally.

Hon: Minister,

I Have &c  
John W. Kerr

J. W. K.



Sir,

18, May 1877.

I have the honor to send you, herewith, my account, and diary for the quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March last, also petty expenses, &c., incurred during the same period. --

To amount, and diary herewith, --	\$ 58.78,
" Voucher, No: 1, Office Rent, John W. Kerr,	5.00.
" " " 2, Express Charges, do, --	1.25,
" " " 3, Postages, &c., do,	2.35,
" " " 4, Stationery, &c., do,	1.10

Total \$ 68.48

Which is \$20, less, than the corresponding quarter of the previous year: -- I will endeavor to keep both in obedience to your orders to keep down expenses, as much as possible in my division.

And with due respect,

Yours, Minister, I have &amp;c.

H, H, H,

John W. Kerr

J. W.

P.S. -- You will please observe -- that I travelled 945, miles -- during the quarter.

Y<sup>rs</sup>. &c. John W. Kerr J. W.

Wednesday, 16, May 1877.

On B, beach -- examined the place, where the North Western Railway -- was taking the Ballast from -- was talking to the foreman, see my report of 14<sup>th</sup> instant, went out at 1. p. m., came in at 6.30. p. m. -- miles 26, \$4 + 00: 2.00, including 8<sup>th</sup> tolls, -- C. J. Kerr 1.

Did not  
change this

Sir,

18. May 1877.

With reference to my application of the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April last, for licenses for seine hauling on Toronto Island - please see Nos. 2, and 3, - for amount paid by Pat. Gray, and David Ward. - and please refer to my letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> of April last, for the description of the said seine hauling license for Messrs David Ward, and Patrick Gray, Toronto Island, fisheries, which I have not yet received from the Department. -

And I also beg most respectfully to refer you to a second letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> day of April last, in which I made application for a boat license for Mr David Ward, - and which probably, has escaped your observation, having so much besides to attend to,

I have &amp;c.

Yours Minister

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

Saturday 19. May 1877.

On Toronto Island - to enquire about seine hauling in the ponds - by Mr P. Gray, - found that no such thing happened by him; - thence to Mr Credit and up to Mr Francis Reid and Mr Thomas Slades - about their licenses - Mr Slade paid me \$5, Mr Reid, to pay \$5, more soon - went out at 6. a. m. came in at 7.30 p. m. - M<sup>rs</sup> 116. Ry fare \$2. Boat 50. dinner 25. M<sup>rs</sup> B. to Slades &c. \$1 -

Sir.

18. May 1874.

I beg most respectfully to refer you to my application of the 24<sup>th</sup> April last, for seven years' hauling licenses for the Niagara fisheries. -

Will you be pleased to let me have the same, by your earliest convenience. -

I Have, &c,

Yours sincerely,  
H. H. H.

John W. Kerr  
P.O.

P.S. - Also the license applied for -  
B. Beach - See letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> May.

Yrs J. W. Kerr  
P.O.

My dear Sir,

Will you be so good, as to send me the names of the Owners of all the Mills, who have dams across the River Credit - the name of the place where the same is situated as soon as possible. -

Commence at Georgetown Hughson's, Bellfontaine and so on to the Forks - Cheltenham, Georgetown, &c. With kind regards, to Mr and Child.

Yrs sincerely,

W. Hull Esq  
Chin Mill

John W. Kerr  
P.O.

19. May 1874.

Please distinguish Saw Mill - Paper Mill and Grist Mill from one another - and No mill &c.

Yrs J. W. Kerr

21. May 1877.

I have the honor to receive from you, copy of letter, written by Mr. Joseph Jackson, Barrister - Toronto, to James Metcalf Esq. M. P. - relative to certain saw mill owners - resident in the Township of Vaughan - and situated 16 miles from the City of Toronto - which having been laid before you, you were pleased to refer to me for report thereon. -

In reply - I beg most respectfully to report for your information - that I visited the saw mills, complained of by the Fish and Game Club of Toronto

For allowing saw dust, and mill rubbish to enter the waters of the Don, a stream frequented by the fishes named in the Fisheries Act, the same being illegal, and in contravention of the Fisheries Act. -

I found at the Village of Patterson, a Steam-let founded by Peter Patterson Esq. M. P. - containing a population of 200 people, on the west branch of the Don, situated in the Township of Vaughan - 2 miles north from Richmond Hill station of the Northern Railway. - A short distance west of Mr. Patterson's farming implement Establishment, this branch of the Don rises, and there is a few speckled trout, in the stream at present, from the fact, that Mr. Patterson had some caught away in other streams, and brought them and had them placed in his pond, and some escaping therefrom, they got into, and went down stream. Such is common report. -

1st Saw Mill, -

I visited the saw mill of Mr. John Jones, he rents the saw mill from Mr. Cook & Son, of the saw mill owners, it is situated on lot No. 16, in the 2<sup>d</sup> Township of Vaughan



and he pays \$400, annual rent for it. Mr Jones saws about 600,000, ft. b. m. - lumber per year, has water for doing so, all the year round, has never seen any trout in the stream, but a small stream having speckled trout in it, enters the West Branch, about 2 miles below his mill. - -

This saw mill is so constructed, that to make a change, is almost impossible, except at very great expense, so as to conform with the law. - The saw dust enters the stream, beneath the mill, slabs and sidings are kept out of the water. - - -

There is no possibility, whatever of remedying the saw dust mill site, and mill rubbish - - - covers about 2 an acre of land, in extent. -

The mill pond contains about 3 acres, and the dam is about 40 ft. high, - Mr Thomas Cook, one of the owners of this saw mill, was present at my inspection. - Mr Pattersons pond into which he put the speckled Trout, is above this saw mill, and Mr Cook has a fruit mill between Patterson Village, - and this saw mill, and all are on the same stream. -

#### 2<sup>d</sup>. Saw Mill. -

I next made my inspection of the saw mill which is near the head of the North Branch, and occupied by Mr David Strickland, who has about 100 saw logs, on hand. - This stream, does not appear to me at least, to have speckled trout in it at present. - -

If it became necessary to prevent the saw dust from going into this small stream, it could be done at this mill, without much trouble or expense. - As the opposite side of the mill, from where the logs are rolled into this mill, is so low, that the saw dust could be wheeled out. - I don't think however, from present appearances, that it is necessary in the future.

of the fishing to stop the saw dust from going into this small stream, as sawing will be at an end up the river in about 4 years. - There is a pond above the mill. - The mill is on lot No. 50, and is in the rear of the 1<sup>st</sup> Conception Vaughan. - This stream is the north branch of the Don - and it rises in the bush about  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile above this pond. - No sawing has been done here since last year. - - -

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Saw Mill. - -

Mr David Boyle - lives on lot No. 45, 1<sup>st</sup> Conception Vaughan, - the mill is in a gorge, with a high bank on the west side, and the mill rubbish is all over the flat, on the east side of the mill, - the saw dust runs into the stream, owing to the construction of the mill, but sidings, slabs, and mill rubbish are all kept out, - The Road leading from Patterson, to the Village of Richmond Hill, passing by, forms the mill dam. - The mill is 50 ft long, by 25 ft wide - the mill pond contains about 5 acres, - The stream below the mill is very insignificant; scarcely any water, only when the mill is running. - Skelton's <sup>saw</sup> mill is up this stream, above Boyle's saw mill, both saw mills are on what is called in the locality, the North Branch of the Don; - Mr Boyle saws about 500,000, ft b, m lumber, annually, and has to draw the logs a long distance which is expensive. - Mr B. says, that in about 5 years from this, all the saw mills will be closed on the Don - as there will be no logs to cut after that date. - -

### 4<sup>th</sup> Saw Mill.

Mrs Jane Wright - (a Widow) owns lot Nos 33, and 34 - 1<sup>st</sup> Conception Vaughan, the West Branch or Cook's stream, and Boyle's

Several streams, unite at ~~Sticks~~ <sup>Sticks</sup> ~~for~~ <sup>for</sup> ~~some~~ <sup>some</sup> ~~distance~~ <sup>distance</sup> ~~from~~ <sup>from</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~stream~~ <sup>stream</sup> before reaching Mr Wright's mill. There are a few speckled trout in the mill pond, which are supposed to have escaped from Patterson's pond. The saw dust all enters the United Creek from Wright's mill, I saw it myself. The mill is 54 ft long, by 30 ft wide. ---

After uniting, this Creek, runs on, and crosses under Yonge street, at Thornhill - and so meanders on toward, and into the Toronto Bay. ---

At Stogs hollow, Yonge street, which is about six miles from Toronto, there is another branch of the Don, called James Creek, rising from various springs and this unites with the Thornhill branch, before reaching Baylors - Paper Mills - at Goddard's which is about six miles down stream, below Stogs hollow. ---

The saw mills, and grist mills of former years, are now annually becoming less in number, and in a few more years, saw mills in a great many places upon the branches of the Don <sup>will</sup> be numbered with the past. ---

This is the first time, that a prosecution has been entered into against the saw mill owners of the Don - Altho' 100 years past saw mills by large numbers predominated thereon. And history tells us, it was once a tolerable trout stream, but the erection of machinery more particularly saw mills has nearly exterminated the fish. ---

Although always most desirous to protect the fishes under the fisheries act, and as by law established

I now deem it advisable, to meet the wishes of the mill owners, and a large proportion of the public of the Community, <sup>by recommending</sup> that the River Don, and its branch be exempt from the provisions of Sub section 2, of Section 14, of the fisheries act, so far as ~~as~~ <sup>as</sup> the saw dust, and mill rubbish is

concerned, for a term of five years only. -  
 I strongly recommend to the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Minister  
 that he will be pleased to increase the power in-  
 vested in him - so far as the Don and its branches  
 herein specified and alluded to are concerned,  
 in this behalf. - I do this because my own  
 firm opinion is, that the enforcement of the  
 law after the strict enquiry as regards fishes  
 being therein that I have made is not requi-  
 site <sup>at present nor just yet</sup> for the public interest, and hope the Min-  
 istres will be pleased to issue a Proclamation  
 to this effect.

And sincerely thanking the members of  
 the Game and Fish Club of Toronto - for their kindly  
 aid and assistance given in this matter. -  
 Your Minister

I have &c

John A. Herbert

20

Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1877. -

At Susp<sup>n</sup> Bridge, Queenston and Niagara,  
 found all regular, - Harry Sheppard - hauling at  
 Queenston in the Niagara River, - Railway fare  
 95, - from S. Ber. to Niagara 50, dinner, tea, and  
 bed 75, - went out at 8. a. m. came in at 4.30.  
 p. m. miles 60. -

Thursday, 24. May 1877. -

At Niagara, Susp<sup>n</sup> Ber. St. Catharines, and  
 home - all right, - went up to the four mile  
 Creek, saw James Cantwell, and A. St. John,  
 went out at 5. a. m. came in at 4.30. p. m.  
 miles about 64. - Ry fare \$1.45 + 25, dinner 25  
 My 50, Mr. Elliott - paid me 15. License  
 fee - for Longhurst and Robinson -

2,451



Rev. 

17, May 1877. -

I have the honor to receive copy of letter from Francis Rose, Fort Erie - to you who complains that his fishery license at Niagara River, has been cancelled by Overseer Kerr, and by your order referred to me for report. - - -

In reply, I have the honor to report that Mr Francis Rose, had no license proper, to fish, and he never had a license to fish in the Niagara River, at Fort Erie, - altho' he admits he caught off 104 worth, of fish, he could not pay a license for this amount. - - -

It will be necessary for me to go back 3 years, and tell you, that Chester A. Harris, of Fort Erie, the original licensee of the fisheries in the Niagara River there, got into difficulties, by being burned out - when it was supposed he was on his death bed - he recovered to find himself in extreme poverty, with a large family, and was compelled to move over to the city of Buffalo, - before doing so, he disposed of his fishing rig, the only thing he was left, to George Stutton, and upon my recommendation George Stutton, then became the licensee of the fishing grounds now referred to. - - -

George Stutton - from some unknown cause, turned out, but before he done so, he assigned his license to a store keeper - in Fort Erie, Mr Poulin, - who fished out the term of the license Stutton held. -

George Stutton, at the commencement of last year, came back again to Fort Erie, applied for a renewal of the license, and having paid \$50 - dollars he received the license for last season. - Stutton again left, and went off to the Western States, but before he done so, he assigned his license of the fisheries over to Mr Charles Greble, Customs House officer and to Mr Hall, Hotel Keeper - Fort Erie, who it appeared advanced to him \$50, - the fishing fee. -

They employed Francis Rose to fish for

the grounds, last year, and a sorry mess he made of it. . . .

During the latter part of last season, Mr. Chas. Treble - Customs Officer, applied to get entire control in his own name of the fisheries now referred to; I brought the matter under the personal observation of Mr. W. G. Whitchee, the Commissioner, who agreed with me, and he repudiated the application of a customs officer, for this fishery, as licenses for fishing were only issued to bona fide fishermen; - And Mr. Whitchee's decision I communicated to Mr. Charles Treble very soon afterwards. . . .

On the 13. of December last, I was at Fort Erie, getting up my annual Returns, and I found George Shutton, back there again, and that the fishing net, (Seine,) boat, fishing shanty, Reels, &c. had been all carried away at night, by the sudden raising of the water in the River, and that all were lost. . . .

I had a Conversation then, with Shutton, Rose, Hall, and Treble; Hall who is father-in-law of to Rose - told me he approved of Mr. Whitchee's decision - Treble was not altogether satisfied, and so it was agreed that Shutton and Rose, could have that part of the fisheries at Ft. Erie, this season: Say: - "All south of the Gilman Road, up the River, as far as the old dock, say a distance of about one mile, for \$30, dollars, - which was to be paid so soon as the fishing commenced. . . . The money, \$30, not being forthcoming, as promised, on the 12. of March, last. -

I wrote Mr. Frank Rose, thus: Copy  
My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to let me have your license fee \$30, dollars,

on receipt, for the fisheries at Fort Erie, in the Niagara River, - for this current season, and as at present occupied by you, and I will send it to Ottawa, and get up your license for you, with my kind regards to you all. - - -  
Yrs &c John W. L. S. D. O. -

To this letter, I never received a reply - Mr Rose paid no attention to this communication at all. - -

On the 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, I again visited Fort Erie, and found Messrs Rose, and Stutton, at the fishing shanty, there - asked for my license fee, - no money, - no fish, the ice did not come down the River! - Consequently no fish until it came. - I insisted on having my rent forthwith, as I see you have been fishing; Rose replied, he had only caught \$80. worth of fish, I said \$50. of that was yours, and you should have paid me \$30, for the fisheries department, as was agreed upon. - -

Rose said then he would go, and hunt up Greble, and endeavour to get the money from him. - He did bring Greble to me, but Greble would not advance money for Rose; and Stutton, told me in plain terms, he had only a hand share in the concern. - - -

I waited for a week longer, to the 26<sup>th</sup> of April, and no money coming to hand from Frank Rose - I wrote him the letter to which he now calls your attention. - - I gave him ample time to pay in his license fee, and get a license from the department, but instead of doing so, altho' he caught fish, sufficient for the purpose, he abused the confidence I had reposed in him, he killed the fishery - told me lies, and told Stutton, who informed me, on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April, that Rose never intended to pay me more than \$15, and so if I did not <sup>take</sup> \$15. -

he would pay nothing. ---

This was the position in which I found myself, in regard to Francis Rose, when Mr. J. J. Harris, son to the original licensee came to me, same evening, his father having previously made written application for the grounds. — When I told him if Rose did not pay within a week, I would recommend the fisheries to be licensed to J. J. and Chester A. Harris — who are now back in Y. L. L. and in possession of the original fisheries, under a license, and the \$30, paid to <sup>me</sup> by them, has been sent to you. —

Now as regards any loss, Mr. Rose may have sustained by the action I was compelled to take, there is none whatever, "for according to his own account, you are in a position to judge that he has gained" — Mr. Charles Noble writes me on 30, April last, "It leaves me with net, half of the fish shanty, and half of the boat, on my hands — Worthless" —

Mr. John Everett, who licensed you me on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December last, paid — as agreed upon — and I sent you his \$40, on 6<sup>th</sup> January last, — I since received from you his license and delivered it, —

There was no end to the trouble, as you will perceive by this report, I have had with this fishery during the past three years. —

On the 7<sup>th</sup> May — after you granted a license of these fishing grounds to J. J. and Chester A. Harris — Mr. Charles Noble — for the first time in behalf of Rose wrote me — "The matter could be made right" —



It was then too late . . .

I Consider Chester A. Harris, and Son, as  
against every other applicant entitled to these fish-  
eries . . . I disguise nothing, and hope my report  
will be found satisfactory . . .

I Have &c,

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Ministers,

&c, &c, &c,

Officer,

John W. Kerr,  
J. O.

Sir,

25 May 1877.

I have the honor to send you a Copy of a letter,  
I received this day - from a person who signs his  
name John Steen - Newcastle complaining of Bass,  
being caught, sold and bought during the close sea-  
son, - in contravention of the Fisheries Act.

I do not know any of the persons named in  
the letter, neither do I know the writer.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Ministers,

&c, &c, &c,

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr,

J. O.

Copy.

J. W. Kerr Esq<sup>r</sup>,

Dear Sir,

Newcastle, 24 May 1877.

As I understand that you are  
a Fishing Officer, - I want to let you know, that the  
Parkers are catching Bass here out of season, they  
have nets out for Salmon, and have caught and sold  
bass since the 15<sup>th</sup>, to Messrs Talbridge also to Jas;  
Lovekens

Y<sup>rs</sup> &c,

John Steen,

Sir,

25. May 1877.

I have the honor to submit the names of the Mill Owners, who own or occupy Mills on the River Credit, and whose Mill dams require to have fishways put therein. The same being according to law.

- No. 1. At Springfield, Edwin Turner, has a dam,
- " 2. At Springfield, Wm. Hall, has a dam,
- " 3. At Streetsville. Barber, and Bros have a dam,
- " 4. At Streetsville, Jas. Gooderham, has a dam,
- " 5. At Streetsville. G. K. Beattie, has a dam,
- " 6. At Meadowdale, John Simpson, has a dam,
- " 7. At Meadowville. St. Gooderham, has a dam,
- " 8. At Churchville, Kenneth Chisholm, M. P. P., has a dam,
- " 9. Mr. Noble - At Harval - has a dam,
- " 10. Georgetown, J. Barber, and Sons have a dam,
- " 11. Glen Williams, Williams & Sons, have a dam,
- " 12. Salmonville, Messrs. Kirkwood, and Smith, have a dam,
- " 13. Cheltenham, Messrs. Staines and Ke., have a dam,
- " 14. Boston Mills, Mr. Spaulding has a dam,
- " 15. Riverdale - Mr. Elgie, has a dam,
- " 16. At the Forks of the Credit, Mr. Kenneth Chisholm, M. P. P., has a Mill dam,
- " 17. Bellefontaine - Mr. Jas. Hughson - has a dam,
- " 18. Suttonville, J. G. Sutton, has a dam,
- " 19. Bastlers Mill - On the Main Branch, has a dam,

I will require printed notices for the foregoing, and in order to expedite the work after the Notices are all served, it will be necessary to have about 3 models of fishways. Speckled Trout are in great abundance in the upper branches of the River Credit.

although the same dust has not been kept out of the steam, during the past two years; owing to a report getting circulation that the law as regards saw dust, &c. - was abolished.

Hon. Minister,  
 H. H. H.

I have &c.,  
 John W. Kerr  
 J. O.

### Fishery Notice. - -

The fishermen on N. Beach, will please take notice - that I am authorized to issue to them the Annual Seine hauling license - to fish in Lake Ontario, for white fish - on being just paid the usual fee. - The Conditions of license are just the same as last year. - - No gill nets of any kind, will be allowed or permitted to be set on any seine hauling ground, nor within two miles of the same, from this date until after white fish seining is over. Fishermen, and all their assistants must strictly conform to the fishery laws, rules and regulations. -

Hamilton, Ont. May 6th.

28. May 1877. -

John W. Kerr  
 J. O.

Note - Unless fishermen take out a distinct and separate license - for fishing gill nets - they cannot fish them -

John W. Kerr  
 J. O.

Sir,

30. May 1877. -

I have the honor to apply to you for  
Seine hauling licenses - for the undernamed  
persons, for this current year. -

1. Thomas Blade - Toronto Township - "A license  
to fish 180 yards Seine - for white fish, and  
rough fish - in Lake Ontario, in front of lots  
Nos 26 and 27, - 2<sup>nd</sup> concession township of Toronto,  
and South of Dundas Street at the rate of  
\$5. for the season. - - -

2. Charles Hurse, - "The Stumber" - "A license  
to fish a Seine 200 yards long, between Ducks  
wharf at the Stumber - and the west side of  
the Stobiacke, in Lake Ontario, for white fish, and  
rough fish, distance about 16 miles - at the rate  
of five dollars for the season. -

please let me have these licenses as  
soon as convenient.

please refer to my letter to you of  
the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, p. 2, - and send me license

for the same.

Yours Minister,

T. T. T.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Friday 26. May 1877. -

On B. Beach - found all regular went out at  
7. p. m. - came in at 12.30. a. m. - Miles 24,  
St. and Bay - 1.50. C. G. Kerr

Did not  
charge it.



Sir,

30. May 1877. -

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank cheque No.

138, for the sum of Thirty dollars. - -

1. George White, & boy. - Whitby. "A license, for fishing 150 yards, seine, in Lake Ontario - between Whitby Harbour, and Shoal point, - distance about 3 miles - for white fish and rough fish - the same being in Townships of Pickering and Whitby. Seining will not be permitted at the mouth of Lyons Creek, nor within 200 yards of the mouth of the same." "And should small white fish, or Salmon be hauled in, they must be instantly liberated". - - Please send me license at once - Amount herewith is. - \$5.00 +

2. David Ward, "Toronto Island" - "For Boat license in Lake Ontario, - between the Humbers, and Dutch Churches, - already received, and delivered, amount herewith is. - 20.00.

3. - Messrs Francis and Charlotte Reid - Toronto Township. - "A License for fishing a seine 250 yards long, in Lake Ontario, between Port Credit, and the West Terminus of Toronto township, say; distance, about 3 miles, - Should small white fish - or Salmon be caught, they must be instantly liberated. Please send me license for \$10. - still due \$5. - Sent herewith. - 5.00.

Total - \$30.00 +

Hon: Minister,

H. H. H.

I Have, &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

G. A.

Tuesday, 29. May 1877.

At Toronto, and the Island; - found no less than four dead Storses in the Bay - or on the Fishery Reserve of Que Chaii. - Also found that Mr. B. M. Bowman, and a Mr. Beech, employees of Macnab, Marsh & Coy - had built a House on the Fishery Reserve without any leave or license from the Department. - heard from John Funnell - fisherman - whose fish shanty is beside Bowman's small House - that Mr. Bruce Macnab & Co. as a west side of Young's Street Wharf had the Storse (dead) I saw on the Seine hauling ground on the Bend, thence from Bend to Mr. Gray's - and on the Stumber. - Charles Hurse - paid me \$5. for a Seine hauling license - went out at 8 a.m. came in at 11 p.m. - Miles 60. My fare \$1.00 dinner, tea, and bed 75. Boat 35.

Wednesday, 30. May 1877. - -

Toronto Island, Toronto, - called and saw Mr. Bowman - about the House he had built on the Fishery Reserve - near the Bend, - also saw Mr. Marsh, respecting Patrick Gray fishing in Block House. - went out at 6 a.m. came in at 2 p.m. - Miles 48. Boat 25. Breakfast and dinner 50. Railway fare \$1.00

x

x

x

Friday - 1st June 1877.

On B. Beech, respecting the issuing of White fish license. He gave notice in writing about the same. See page 306. - Jas. L. Taylor - paid me a \$1. for license last winter. went out at 8 a.m. came in at 1 p.m. Miles 20. Fare 1.50. - C. J. Kent

Did not enter this

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to give the enclosed to Mr. Davis, and oblige

Yours truly,

John W. Kerr

D. Overseas,

Hamilton,

1<sup>st</sup> June 1877.

My dear Mr. Elliott,

I intend coming down next week, and collect all Licence Fees.

Please tell Messrs. Bolton, Grob, Alvin, and Cantwell, and the gill net fishermen, as the Licences have been sent to me for that purpose; With kind regards to you all I am, Yours sincerely,

John W. Kerr

D.O.

1<sup>st</sup> June 1877.

Mr. John Elliott

Managere

My dear Sir,

I have been waiting patiently for your fee, and now the 1<sup>st</sup> of June has arrived.

If you and S. Wright do not send me your licence fee on receipt, you must stop all fishing, because no person can fish without a licence.

Yrs &c

John W. Kerr

D.O.

1. June 1877.

Mr. John Mansfield

Frenchman Bay.

Hamilton P.O.

My dear Sir,

please find the same haul-  
ing license, you have applied for, herewith.

Yours truly,

Mr Geo: White,  
Whitby.

John W. Kent  
D.O.

2, June 1877.

My dear Wilcox,

Will you be so good, as to  
deliver the enclosed licenses for me to Messrs  
Thomas Slade, and Mrs Charlotte Reid,  
for me, and much oblige

Yours Truly —

Mr Geo: Wilcox  
St. Quersel,  
Port Credit.

John W. Kent  
D.O.

2, June 1877. —

My dear Sir,

Will you please find  
your license herewith, and believe me

Yours truly,

Charles Horae Esq  
The Stumber-  
Mimico W. Office.

John W. Kent  
D.O.

2, June 1877.



Sir,

5. June 1877.

I have the honor to send you herewith, a Bank cheque No. 167, for thirty dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for this current season, on a <sup>Seine hauling</sup> set of license just issued to John Bolton, to fish in Lake Ontario, at the Two Mile Creek - Township of Niagara, amount herewith... 15.00.

Also to Messrs. Thomas Elliott and Thomas Moir. - for a license to fish a seine in the ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Niagara River <sup>& Lake Ontario</sup>, between the wharf there ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~, and Kennedy's hollow in Lake Ontario, distance about 1 1/2 miles, the amount herewith, received on issuing the license is, 15.00

Total \$ 30.00

Yours Ministers,  
 & & &

I have &amp;c,

John W. Bess

G. O.

Monday, 4. June 1877.

at St. Catharines, and Niagara, received Seine hauling license fee, from John Bolton, 15. Boat License \$ 5, from Thomas Elliott and Thomas Moir, Seine hauling license \$ 15, from Joe Master and John Keith, Boat license fee \$ 5. Railway fare 1.60. Horse and buggy 2.10, dinner & tea 25. Telegraph 28¢ - Miles 94 - went out at 8. a. m. Came in at 1. a. m. - 5 June - \$ 4.23¢

Sir,

5. June 1877.

I have the honor to apply to you, for Boat License to fish in Lake Ontario, between Kennedy's Hollow, and the Six Mile Creek, distance about five miles, - and to extend from the beach, outwards to a distance of six miles, in front of the beach, within the given points - the same being in the Town, and Township of Niagara, -

1. John Bolton - 1,500 yards of five inch extension measure, white fish gill net, and 1,500 yards of 3" extension measure, herring gill net, pd. 5.00,
2. James Cantwell, 1,800 yards white fish gill net, of same size, and 1,200 yards of Herring gill net, 3" inches, extension measure. - 5.00,
3. Charles and Alfred Ball, 1,500 yards of white fish gill net, of same size, and 1,500 yards of Herring gill net, 3" extension measure. - 5.00,
4. Messrs. Joe Masters, and John Keith, 1,600 yards of white fish gill net, of same size, and 800 yards of Herring gill net, 3" extension measure. pd. 5.00,
5. Wm. Ingledau, 1,800 yards of white fish gill net, same size, and 1,000 yards of herring gill net, not less than 2  $\frac{5}{8}$  inches extension measure. - To fish in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Nelson, 5.00.

Hon. Minister

I Have &amp;c.

H. H. H.

John W. Kane

H. C.

Sir,

June 1877.

I have the honor to apply to you, for the amount of my incidentals for the quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, as I find I need it for the active and efficient duties in my office and much oblige.

I have &amp;c.

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

John W. Kerr

D.O.

B -

I will thank you to send me a package of large envelopes.

J. W. Kerr

D.O.

Wednesday 6, June 1877. -

Lt. Merrittou, Port Colborne - Low Banks - Pt. Maitland, Dunnville, andaledonia. saw old Mr. Honkle, - and Mr. Richard Hugh - the latter paid me \$10 - to take him out for fishing a seine in Lake Erie - in front of his own property - saw Mr. Post at Pt. Maitland - who conversed freely about the Pound Nets, he was fishing in L. E. near Full Island. - By gave \$2.00 from Mr. - to Pt. Colborne - from Hamilton there being dinner \$35, tea and bed 75. went out at 7. a. m. came in at 9.30 p. m. - miles 120, horse and buggy off. - See my report on page 315. - 2.00, 1.10, 4.00, 2, 7.10.

# 4

1.30.

70.

# 2.004

# 4

Sir,

7. June 1877.

I have the honor to report for your information, that I proceeded to that part of my division in Lake Erie, lying east of the Grand River, down to Port Colborne, and about 3 miles east of the mouth of the Grand River, at Gull Island, and I found that a fishing company under the firm of Messrs. Werrett, Babcock, and Post, dealers of all kinds of fish - Port Maitland, Ont., had commenced fishing there, three pound nets each pound 60 fms long, with 30 ft<sup>3</sup> pot. - and were selling fish all over the Country without a license. - - -

The pay is 40<sup>¢</sup>, license fee - for each pound. - Babcock, and Post, are native Americans from Painesville - Ohio, - George Werrett, is a native of Service, County of Norfolk, - a merchant, and son of a merchant there, - I demanded the license from Mr. John E. Post, - who is the manager, and resides at Port Maitland, he said he believed Mr. Werrett, had got it at Service, I then asked him, how much they paid for it; Mr. Post, told me they had not paid for it yet, that the authority to fish these pounds, came from the department, through Mr. Henry Lawrence, Fishery Overseer - of the 2<sup>nd</sup> River, - Dunville; I told Mr. Post, you never done business that way, and that I was the Overseer, to whom they should apply for a license. - I then wrote him the following note "marked B," and handed it to him (Mr. Post,) telling him as I have therein written him, that I was bona fide, the only Fishery Overseer of that part of Lake Erie, where he had his pounds set, and where sanctioned



by the department, the license fee fixed, must be paid through me: - - - and which he said he was prepared to do; I now therefore await your orders in this case. - - -

I confess to you this case is of such an extraordinary nature, that I am puzzled to find how it was possible, for such an infringement of my prerogative happening, without my hearing from the department, and as has been always the case heretofore - When applications were made for licenses by any person or persons to fish in my division: - - And hence it is now that I rely upon the honor and integrity of the Commissioner - and his staff, at Ottawa - towards me on all such occasions, that it strikes me forcibly that Mr. Law, has been doing all this on his own hook. - -

You will perceive that he has so managed or mismanaged, this pound net affair at Gull Island, that I was almost caught napping. - - -

Then in connection with this pound net fishing in Lake Erie, Mr. Post, informed me, and I beg to report to you without prejudice, that there are two pound being fished at Monticoke, and two more pounds are being fished west of Port Dover, - Lake Erie, under license from Mr. Bingham; - And to day, coming home on the Train, I met an Agent of Mr. P. W. Innes - General of Service, one of the Proprietors - who informed me 2 pounds are being fished  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile east of Port Ryerse - and 2 more pounds are being fished  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile east of Port Dover. - - -

and one pound is being fished  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile east of Port Ryerse, near Mr. Innes's place

In all 9 pounds, besides those (3) being fished at Full Island as reported above. -

I merely mention these matters, because I find the Market is now glutted with fish from the several pounds being fished.

In Conclusion I beg to report, I ~~merely mention matters regarding the Bingham~~ division, that nothing but the warm interest that I feel, and have always felt, in the past and the future well being and prosperity of the fisheries, laws, regulations and orders in Council, for the due observance of the same, induces me to write, and lay these matters before you.

I Have &c,

Hon. Ministers,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa. -

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

P.S. - please find two meanderings herewith. - - -  
J. W. Kerr  
D.O.

B. Copy. -

John W. Kerr Esq.

Port Maitland. - -

My dear Sir, - Until I hear from the Fisheries Department, Ottawa - and advise you, please do not pay the Special License fee of 120, to Mr Henry Lowe - fishery business, - Dunnville - as I am bona fide, and the only fishery business, over the limit in Lake Erie, wherein you have your (3)



The Dunnville Press reports that the fishery lately established at Port Maitland is a success, large quantities of excellent fish being caught. The white fish are sent east. The spawn of the sturgeon, being one of the many sources of profit, is sent to Germany, being used for making caviare. The body of the sturgeon is sold for a nominal price, twenty-five cents each. All other fish caught are also sold at very low prices, and Port Maitland bids fair to become a very lively fish market for this section of Canada. Excellent herring are now sold in Dunnville for fifteen cents per dozen.

three pounds now fishing; that is to say;  
Between Gull Island, and the Main Land, in Allow-  
hawk bay - and off Gull Island, in the Township  
of Sherbrooke; I will advise you at once, on  
hearing from the Department, and give you  
their mind in the matter, -

Hamilton,  
6. June 1877.

Yrs Respectfully, -  
John W. Kerr  
J. W. Kerr.

My dear Harry, -

Will you please find your license  
herewith; examine my written note on the license,  
and let me know if it will answer for your  
purpose. - -

Please send me your license money and  
if you cannot manage the Sturgeon fisherman, let  
me know, and I will come down next week. -

With kind regards,

8. June 1877,  
Hamilton, -

Yrs Paternally,  
John W. Kerr  
J. W. Kerr.

Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 1877.

At Baledonia, and home, - went out at 9. a. m.  
came in at 11. a. m. - Miles 14, Railway fare 1.15<sup>4</sup>  
from Dunville to Hamilton - Breakfast 25<sup>4</sup>.

Friday, 8. June 1877. -

At Oakville, to see John Ball - a fisherman - just  
arrived here from Peterborough. - went out at 5.30.  
a. m. came in at 5. p. m. - Miles 52, breakfast and  
dinner 70<sup>4</sup> - Buss 20<sup>4</sup>, Railway fare 90<sup>4</sup> - found that Mr  
Thomas Thomas, had been fishing without a  
license, and catching herring in a gill net.

Heard from Mrs. Bell - that her husband had gone over to the 20 mile Creek, to fish with Dick Gilbert.

✓ Saturday, 9. June 1877. -

At Jordan, Clinton, and Beausville, - found that John Bell had left for Oakville - before I reached there - saw the Boat going away, - heard from Gilbert all about him - and that he and Bell - were going into partnership - went out at 7.30. a.m. - came in at 7.30. p.m. - Miles 60. - - - 14.4 Pay 1.00  
90  
1.90.25.25

My dear Sir,

9. June 1877.

On visiting Oakville on Friday last, I found that you had been fishing a string gill net, and catching fish, which you cannot do, except under a license, or lease from the department of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.

I also found, that you had been giving out your trout and white fish gill nets - for to be fished on shares, by Mr John Bell, - who has lately come to reside in Oakville as a fisherman. - - -

You will have to take out your Boat License, this year, same as last year, or else! I will have to come down again, fine you, and Confiscate all your gill nets, - please send me off 5, your annual license fee on receipt.

Yr. truly,  
Mr Thomas Thomas,  
Oakville,

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

P.S.,

I found your string net, on the Reel net, when I arrived at your boat House,

Yr. truly, J. W. Kerr



Sir

9. June 1877.

Hearing you had commenced fishing in Lake Ontario, at Oakville - which is in my division - I proceeded there, on yesterday, and found you had been fishing for some time past, but had gone across the Lake, to the mouth of the 20 mile Creek; and on my arrival there this day - I found you had just left, in fact, I saw your boat as soon as I arrived on the Beach there. . . .

I need not tell a good old fisherman like you, what the fishing law is, and that we must all live up to it. -- I may mention to you there is no license at present in my division, granted to any (person) fisherman, to run from one side of the Lake, to the other, as you have been doing; - however, I will take no advantage of you, for doing so; you must however, take out your license, which will be only five dollars this year. -

And if you will get up a gang of 7, 7½ and 8" mesh trout gill nets, extension measure, I will give you a good place to fish in - nearer to Oakville - than the 20 mile Creek; - But I cannot allow any partnership on Oakville side of Lake, with Dick Gilbert, in the matter, you, and your boy can manage it between you.

Don't fish any gill nets, for Thomas until he takes out a license first. -

With kind wishes for your prosperity  
believe me Yours Respectfully  
Mr John Bass  
Fisherman  
Oakville, Ont.  
John W. Kent  
J. W. K.

Mr Bass - Will you please write me and let me know where I can find you, and when -

My dear Sir!

I was very much surprised on visiting Low Banks, on Wednesday last, to find you had been fishing three seines, instead of one, and that you had rented out every night last week, your two old seines for three dollars each for the week, say 18, each = 36 dollars. —

And your New Seine for your dollars each night = 24 dollars. —

This being the case, you will now have to pay me \$15, additional, and unless you do this immediately, I will come up, and prosecute and fine and convict those persons who have been fishing in the manner herein described.

Yrs Sincerely,  
Isaac Michener Esq. John W. Benson  
Low Banks D. C.  
Onto

11. June 1877.

In consequence of the great scarcity and high price of speckled trout, the finest pan fish known to epicures, it is in contemplation by a number of gentlemen to form a joint stock company to purchase and build a pond and breeding establishment as near as practicable to the city of Hamilton. Not only will the enterprise afford amusement to those who are fond of piscatorial sport, but will make a profitable return to those who invest. The *Spectator* has the following paragraph from an American exchange showing how profitable such an enterprise may be: "The trout breeding business is becoming very extensive and profitable on the south side of Long Island. Mention was recently made of the preparations of ex-Congressman Roosevelt, Lorillard and other well-known New Yorkers for going into the business on an extensive scale. There is talk of other similar enterprises soon to be started. Mr. Bishop, of Fire Place, two years ago conceived the idea of having a trout pond. He dug out a swamp, built a hatching house, and formed two artificial ponds. These he stocked with a few trout, which have increased to nearly twenty thousand, valued at about \$10,000. The entire capital invested by him does not exceed \$1,500, and his net receipts will be at least \$3,000 per annum. Mr. A. J. Hines, of Palace Brook, near Patchugne, hatched fifty thousand trout this spring. He owns three ponds and one hundred yards of canals. Mr. Nathaniel Miller, of Fire Place, has erected a hatching house and dug out several small ponds, and now owns about fifteen thousand trout—all obtained by artificial hatching. Messrs. Dayton & Gregory, of Canaan, own a small pond and half an acre of land ditched out. They devote their whole time to the business, which at present nets them \$3,000 a year."

Sir

11 June 1877.

I have the honor to send you Bank Cheque No. 1911, for the sum of fifteen dollars. —

Will you be please to apply this amount as follows; for Current year: —

1, Mr Richard Ough, Township of Molton, for License to fish a seine for Sterring, and rough fish in Lake Erie, in front of lots Nos 2, and 3, just Concession township of Molton, and County of Monck, for this Current year. — — \$5.004

2, Mr Albert Probb, for seine hauling license at Four Mile Creek, township of Niagara, &c, for Current year, 15, sent on account. — License already received. — 10.00.

Total \$15.004

Hon. Minister

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr

D.O.

My dear Sir

Yours received, you will please send me in yards the quantity of the different kinds of gill nets, and seine nets, or any other kind of legal net you or this company intend to fish, the number of Boats you intend to employ in the fishing, and lastly the names and the Residence of the different persons who intend to form your company, when I will at once reply to you. —

Yrs Sincerely,

W. Wright Esq  
St Catherine  
Onto

John W. Kerr  
Fishing Business,  
14, June 1877.

Ser,

11. June 1877.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on visiting that part of my division between Port Colborne, and Port Maitland in Lake Erie, on the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, I found that Mr Henry Laws, the Overseer of the Grand River, at Druxville, had been intruding his services in my division without any Authority whatever from me. --

1. Henry Ross - of Molton, who lives east of the mouth of the Grand River, in my division, paid Mr Laws, as per receipt herewith, May 18, 1877, the sum of fifteen dollars. - Would you be pleased to send me the license for Mr Ross, that I may countersign and deliver the same. - Mr Ross also stated to me that he paid his license for 15<sup>th</sup> last year to Mr Laws, but <sup>has</sup> never yet received his license for 1876. -

2. Adam Konkle of Beamsville - whom Mr Henry Laws - accidentally met at Pt Colborne <sup>when attending Court this 4<sup>th</sup></sup> 25 day of April last, has paid him 3 as per receipt herewith. - Would you be pleased to send me license for Mr Konkle, that I may countersign and deliver - as I presume Mr Laws has sent you the money. -

Please return me the receipts again.

Yours, &c.

Y. Y. Y.

I Have &c

John W. Kerr

D.O

Konkle fishes 300 yars - of Henry's  
gile net. -

J. W. Kerr



Copy,

324

May 18, 1877,

Received from Henry Ross - fifteen dollars, for license to fish from the gravel bed to Port Maitland, in the Grand River - and in Lake Erie, on either side of the piers. -

Henry Laws

Fishing Bureau.

Copy,

Port Colborne

April 25, 1877,

Received from Adam Kunkle the sum of three dollars, for one gill net 100 yards long, from Sugar loaf to lot 14, in Wainfleet. -

Henry Laws

Fishing Bureau

Thursday, 14. Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 1877.

Attending the Quarter Sessions - as a witness against J. H. Carey - fined 10. and costs, on complaint of Wm Lottbridge Jr for fishing pike gill net in Lottbridges Inlet -

Mr Jas. Cahill Police Magistrate paid me ten dollars license fee for Dan, and George, and ten dollars half fine on English - Coal Oil - in Shermans Inlet. - on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 1877. -

Wm Lottbridge Jr told me on Friday - he had seen small white fish selling in the market that morning - upon enquiry - I believe he was right, and so I cautioned all the fishermen and dealers accordingly. -

Sir,

9. June 1877. -

In reply to your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> June, I have to report that when I applied to you on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May for permission to engage the services of Mr Wellington Stull of Erin Village to assist me in keeping out saw dust, and mill rubbish from branches of the River Credit, situated in the Townships of Erin and Caledon, and to protect the speckled trout from being fished for, on Sundays, and during spawning season, not having alluded to Mr Jas. J. Wilcox in the communication in any manner whatever, nor to the construction of the fishways in dams on River Credit, it cannot be construed to mean that I wished to slight him, and altho you ask me now, I do not wish to say one word against him. -

The main object, I had in recommending Mr Stull, as the welfare and prosperity of the speckled trout fisheries on the increase in the upper waters, and branches of the River Credit, on the west branch of which in Erin Village, Mr Stull resides, with the waters of his fish ponds emptying into the same. -

In connection with the fishways to be constructed I made no allusion in my report to you of either Stull nor Wilcox, intending as I did, as I do, to go round myself whenever I get from you, the wooden models, notes, and the necessary instructions, and tell the Mill Owners, what is required of them by the department, and advise and instruct them how to carry out your orders. - When completed Mr Wilcox, or any other person you may appoint could afterwards see they were kept in an efficient condition. - By railway from Hamilton, I can reach the upper branches of the Credit in 3 hours, whereas if I was to travel from Port Credit, it would take me an entire day. -

A few words more about Mr. Wellington Stull. He has been actively engaged for the last six years, breeding, raising, and populating the west branch of the River with speckled trout, and has by his perseverance been most successful, far beyond his own and my expectations.

You have been pleased during the time so engaged to permit him to catch the parent fish in the fall, so as to obtain from them the spawn &c, for his hatching house, and I may add, I <sup>have and</sup> feel every confidence in his ability, and I beg to state, and I do really believe that Mr. Stull, has never abused the permission that you have granted to him, and from my own personal knowledge, he has let out annually, thousands of speckled trout fry, into the west branch of the Credit, and has been using his best efforts to breed, and to people the Creek with speckled trout, and to act in a praiseworthy manner, in behalf of the fisheries, and for the good of the Community at large in this respect. When I was in his Village and its vicinity, on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of May last, he had about 5,000, speckled trout on hand varying from a 1/4 of a pound, up to 3 1/2 pounds, the larger fish would be then about 4 years old, rising 5 years old.

You will please thus perceive, what my object was in recommending a man of Mr. Stull's, known ability to fill a subordinate office on the upper branches of the River Credit, at one time the pride and glory of Upper Canada as a Salmon stream.

Mr. Stull is appointed to fill the place of Mr. Wm. Higgins, which was vacated by him on the upper branches of the River Credit, about 3 years ago when he was from the (Upper to Presbytery in Muskoka; a great many speckled trout, thousand I say, are caught and killed here close season, annually, particularly west of on the upper branches of the River Credit.

which is a very rough Country not suitable for Mr Wilcox no matter how willing he may be to act, in the discharge of his duties, he could never actively move around there.

I shall endeavour to use my best endeavours to bring back, (altho' at present depleted) to that prosperous Salmon position again, and next October, I will please God, catch some of these law breakers, and with due respect,  
Hon: Minister,

I Have &c.  
John W. Bent  
S. C.

Sir,

June 1877.

I have the honor to apply to your for a License of the Seine hauling fishery Station No: 12, in Lake Ontario, on B. beach; and I recommend that the same may be issued to Thomas Martin, for the sum of Ten dollars, for this current season...

The license to be filled in, the same as all the other similar licenses issued to the other fishermen there.

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister,  
F. F. F.

John W. Bent  
S. C.

Saturday 16. June 1877.

On B. beach - saw Wm. Roobin, about paying license - and who paid nothing last year - also saw John Connor, and David Tyson, on the same subject; - went out at 5. p. m. came in at 11.30, p. m. miles 24. S4W. warned all fishermen to lay up their Herring Seines - and further more if any of them hauled in small white fish, and did not release them instantly. I would recommend license to be cancelled. - C. G. Bent



Sir,

16, June 1877.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
Cheque No: 211, for the sum of Twenty dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount  
as follows; for this current year. - -

1. Daniel J. Jwyne - For Seine hauling ground, in Lake  
Ontario, on N. beach, Station No: 11. - License already  
delivered. - - - 10.00.

2. Mortimer Corey. - For Seine hauling ground in  
Lake Ontario, on N. beach, Station No: 2 - License al-  
ready delivered, on a/c. - - - 5.00.

3. Thomas Mansfield - For license to fish 300 yards  
white fish Seine, in Lake Ontario, at Frenchmans Bay,  
Township of Pickering - bay from the East pier, half  
a mile therefrom - "If small white fish, or a salmon  
are hauled in, they must be instantly liberated;"  
paid on a/c. 5.00.

Please send me Mansfield's license. - Total, \$20.00

Yours sincerely,

J. F. F.  
Ottawa,

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
P.O.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find your  
license herewith, which will place you inde-  
pendent of Mr Isaac Michines - Your  
change, I will hand you shortly when I come  
up.

Richd. W. Kerr Esqr  
Lower Bank  
P.O.

Yours truly,  
John W. Kerr  
P.O.

16, June 1877.

My dear Mr Story. -

Yours received, it is all right to catch White fish, and sell them, such as you describe - the law being altered by regulation in Council, before the Governor General; see Section 19. of the Fisheries Act, and sub section 2, of Section 19. of the Fisheries Act. -

I may say however, that no person is allowed, to fish in Lake Ontario, at the mouth of Duffin Creek, and if any person is, ~~as~~ fishing there, you will please let me know at once, who it is! It was reported to me last winter, that George White & boy - had hauled at the mouth of Lyons Creek, - read sub section 10. of section 7. of the Fisheries Act, please let me hear from you by return mail. -

James Story Esq  
Whitby, Onto

Yours sincerely.

John W Kerr J.O.  
Hamilton, 18. June 1877.

P.S. - Young Pils, can tell you all about it, - please tell him to write me, and at the same time to take good care of my boat, and keep her in repair - and to tell <sup>me</sup> if Jim Peck or any body else fished at the mouth of Duffin Creek, J.W.

J. W. Kerr  
J.O.

Sir,

16 June 1877,

With reference to my report of the 21<sup>st</sup> of May last, made by me to you in relation to certain saw mills, &c., on the Don, owned by Mr David Mayle, and others, in the neighbourhood of Richmond Hill, township of Vaughan, in the County of York. --

I beg most respectfully to remind you, that the Cases will come up again before the Police Magistrate - Toronto, - on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of this month, when I hope to have a copy of your decision <sup>in these cases</sup> to lay before the Bench.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

The Minister,

T. T. T.

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr

T. O.

16 June 1877,

Sir, With reference to my application of the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May last, for renewal of Seine hauling license in B. bay; - for Mr Thomas Joyce to fish a 250 yards Seine, for suckers, and rough fish, at a rental of ten dollars, eight of which, I then sent you; on B. beach, township of Shelton. -

In compliance with your recent communication, I now beg most respectfully to send you a description of the fishing ground occupied by Mr Joyce. - Fishing station No: 7, in B. bay, commencing at the old outlet, thence north, say about 20 chains, along the bay shore to a certain grape vine situated on the beach, the same being in the Township of Shelton; - and to extend for a distance of 500 yards outwards in the waters of the Bay, - within the given limits. - This license is to expire on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June. -

I will send balance \$2, next remittance.

Please date your license 14, June last.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister

T. T. T.

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr

T. O.

Sir,

16 June 1877,

With reference to my application of 1<sup>st</sup> of March last, for a seine hauling license (renewal) for Mr. H. B. Birley, in front of the Ocean House in B. bay, on B. beach, to which you then replied, as regards the description &c. &c.

I have now the honor to send you, a correct description of the spring license, I recommend to issue to Mr. H. B. Birley, he having paid in the license fee 10<sup>4</sup>, on the date referred to. ---

Commencing at the southern limits of the Burlington bay Canal reserve on B. beach, where a long post has been planted to mark the boundary of the same, thence south along the beach of B. bay, for a distance of about fourteen chains bay frontage, to where a post has been planted to mark the southern boundary of seine hauling grounds Nos: 2, and to extend from the waters edge between these given points outwards into the waters of the bay, for a distance of 300 yards. -- This fishery is known as fishing station Nos 1. and 2, in B. bay. ---

For seine hauling with a net 250 yds long - in the spring of the year only - for rough fish, say up to, and ending on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June. --

You will please send me license and date it 1<sup>st</sup> of March 1877, the date on which I sent you the money.

I Have &amp;c

Hon. Minister

John W. Kent  
J. C.



Sir,

18. June 1877.

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
Cheque, No 221, for the sum of Thirty five dollars.

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for  
this current year, as follows;

- 1, Messrs <sup>3</sup>/<sub>111</sub> James Longhurst, and James Robertson,  
Seine hauling license, in Niagara River, received  
Countersigned, and delivered, \$ 15.00,
- 2, Messrs Golds, Seine hauling license, in Lake  
Ontario, on B. beach, received Countersigned,  
and delivered this day. 10.00,
- 3, John Bolton, Niagara, for Boat License,  
in Lake Ontario, please see my letter of  
5. June, received, Countersigned, and del-  
ivered this day, 5.00,
- 4, Messrs <sup>3</sup>/<sub>111</sub> Joe Masters, and John Keith, for  
Boat License, to fish in Lake Ontario,  
at Niagara, please see my letter of  
5. June, received, Countersigned, and  
delivered. 5.00

Total \$ 35.00

I Have &c

John W Kerr  
J.O.

Hon. Ministers  
& & &

Monday 18. June 1877.

On B. beach, examined Seine for White fish, all re-  
gular, except D. McFryne a little small. Saw Ben  
Golds, who paid me license fee \$ 10. - cautioned him  
about small White fish, he sold to John Martin,  
in fish Market. Hamilton on Saturday last,  
and the result if repeated, went out 4. A. M.  
came in at 9. A. M. while 20. \$ 1.00  
C. J. Kerr. with me. - 1.00

My dear Mr Elliott,

Will you be pleased to hand the enclosed to Mr John Bolton, and Joe Masters.

And please get from the following fishermen, for me. —

1. James Cantussee, Seine license	15,	and	
Boat license,	5,	Total	\$ 20. —
2, Wm Dugledaw, Boat license,	" 5,		
3, Chas. and Alf Ross, do,	" 5.		
		Total,	\$ 30.

Am Oblige, Yr - Vc

John W. Kerr

Hamilton,

19. June 1877.

Quills - 20, ~~4~~

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to have a horse and buggy ready for me at the station, when early train gets at P<sup>3</sup> Credit tomorrow Friday morning. — I want to go to Springfield, Vc, and I want you to come with me. — Don't tell the person whose rig you had where we are going.

Yr friend  
Mr Jas. W. Wier  
P<sup>3</sup> Credit.

Yr friend  
John W. Kerr  
P<sup>3</sup>.

21. June 1877.

20<sup>th</sup> June 1877, Received quarterly salary ending 30 of June — " 125. Receipts filled up for 18<sup>th</sup> of June 1877.

Sir,

21. June 1877. -

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank  
cheque No: 241, for the sum of Twenty eight dollars, -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount, for this  
current year as follows;

1. Thomas Blade, Toronto Township - License to fish, al-  
ready received, and delivered, see letter 30, of May, - 5.00.
2. Henry Sheppard, Queenston - License to fish, al-  
ready received, and delivered. - 10.00.
3. Richard Gilbert, Middleport - for license to  
fish a 200 yard seine, for rough fish, in the 20.  
mile pond, township of Louth, for year 1877.  
same as last year. - - 10.00.
4. Richard Gilbert - do. - A boat License to  
fish 1000 yards of white fish gill nets, not less  
than 5" inches, extension measure, in Lake Onta-  
rio, in front of the township of Louth, no money  
yet - (see 5.) please send me license. - - -
5. John Bell - Oakville - A boat license to fish  
1000 yards of white fish gill nets, and 2000 yards  
of S. Trout gill net, not less than 5" inches exten-  
sion measure, in Lake Ontario, in front of the  
County of Halton - please send me license,  
no money yet. see #5. - - -
6. John Proudfoot - Whitby - License to fish a  
small seine 120 yards long, in Whitby Harbour, and  
in Lake Ontario, within the boundary of the  
Harbour limits, in township of Whitby, license  
fee \$5. now sent you. 3.00.

Total \$28.00.

Yours Minister  
H. H. H.

I Have &amp;c

John Bell  
J. C.

Sir,

23. June 1877.

I have the honor to send you Bank cheque No: 255, for the sum of eighteen dollars. -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount for this Current season, as follows;

No: 1, Thomas Martin, license to fish on Station No: 12, Lake Ontario, on B. beach, received, Counter = signed, and delivered this day. \$ 4  
10.00,

" 2, Fred: H. Corey, - Gill net license to catch pike in B. bay, - received, Counter = signed, and delivered, bay 400 yards in all. - 4.00,

" 3. - Isaac Durham, Grimsby - Boat li-  
cense to fish 400 yards of white fish gill  
net, not less than 5" inches extension measure  
in Lake Ontario, in front of his property,  
same as last year, please send me license,  
Township of Grimsby 4.00,

Total \$ 18.00.

I Have &amp;c,

Hon: Minister,

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr

S. A.

Postage stamps 50¢, Envelopes  
10¢ - Foolscap 25¢. -



My dear Sir,

23. June 1877,

With reference to the complaints made  
ag<sup>t</sup> Mr David Boyle, of Richmond Hill, and others  
in the Township of Vaughan, for allowing saw dust  
to enter the waters of the Don, instituted by the Game  
Club, &c., of Toronto. -

I may say for your information, that I have  
had a letter from the Fisheries Department, on the 19<sup>th</sup>,  
instant, in reply to my report, to say; "The Secre-  
tary of the Club has been communicated with for  
the purpose of having proceedings stayed" - as  
the cases will come up on Monday 25<sup>th</sup>, I beg  
to apprise you accordingly, so that you may  
apprise Mr Love, &c. - Yrs Truly,

Joseph Jackson Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Barreter, &  
Toronto.

John W Kerr  
J. O.

P.S. - If you want me, Telegraph, and  
I will come down.

Y<sup>ls</sup> V John W Kerr  
J. O.

Mr John Jordan, Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Duffins Creek,

Please give the beaver, John  
Pile - my boat, the Oars, and paddle, and oblige  
Hamilton, Onto.

27. June 1877.

Yours friend

John W Kerr  
J. O.

Sir,

23. June 1877.

I have the honor to report, that a new discovery has been made by me and others of another fish, resembling to some extent a brookie; It is however, a superior fish in every respect, is hard, and firm, well shaped, and good to eat, and is destined to outdo all the other running fishes. . . .

They are very numerous on Os. Beach, in Lake Ontario, this summer. . . .

This is the second time, I discovered fish in Lake Ontario, not previously known to be in existence there. . . With due respects,  
Hon. Ministers,

H. H. H.

I Have &c,

John W Kerr  
P.O.

My dear Sir,

I am just in receipt of your letter, you can have the license for Noble Keith, to fish gill nets, for the balance of this season, - please send me the money at once, and the number of yards of gill nets, he or you intend to fish, and I will get you a license at once,

Wm King  
Beamsville,

Yrs truly  
John W Kerr, P.O.,  
23. June 1877.

My dear Sir,

Yours received applying for a  
license to fish in Lake Ontario, in front of lot No 3,  
1<sup>st</sup> concession - Grimsby, - "Camp ground" - I presume  
your dollars more will not be too much, seeing  
that you and Book, have already paid four other  
dollars. - please send money, and the number  
of yards of gill nets, you intend to fish there. -

Yrs truly,

John W. Kerr  
D.O.,

23, June 1877,

Isaac Durham Esq  
Grimsby - Onto.

My dear Sir,

Yours received, I accept  
your explanation this time as satisfactory,  
but when you apply next time, just say  
how many small seines you intend  
fishing, because we are getting every  
year more particular,

And be sure, and give the length  
of each seine in yards. -

Yrs. &c.,

Isaac Michener Esq  
Lower Banks  
P. Office

John W. Kerr  
D.O.,

25, June 1877,

My dear Sir,

25, June 1877.

I send you today the  
M<sup>rs</sup> Ball and Jas. Cantwells licenses.

Please hand Ball his, and give Jim  
his, on his giving you five dollars. —

You can keep the 20. now on hand,  
and Jim's boat license \$5, until I come  
down, or until you hear from me again.

A new discovery of a fish resembling  
a besco, has been made last week, in L.  
Ontario, on B. beach; It is hard, firm, and  
a better fish than a besco, examine your  
Ciscos, and see if they are the same as the  
winter fish usually caught, or something  
else, — My kind regards to M<sup>rs</sup> Elliott  
your mother, and the girls.

Y<sup>rs</sup> truly,

Mr Thomas Elliott,  
Niagara,

John W. Kerr  
D. O

P.S. Perhaps you might as well send  
me the 25<sup>th</sup>, when Jim pays his boat li-  
cense by a post office order, as they  
daily are getting more particular  
about License fees at Ottawa. —

Y<sup>rs</sup> &c

25, June 1877.

John W. Kerr.



Friday, 22, June 1877. -

at Port Credit, thence to Streetsville, served Notices on James Goddard, G. K. Beattie, and Robert Barber, and Mr. signed by W. G. Whitcher for the Hon. Minister, to have fishways put in their mill dam - according to the 12. Section of the Fisheries Act. - Had a model of fishway with me, and explained it to them. -

Thence on back to Springfield, and served Edwin Turner - and John Decease with Notices for a similar purpose, went out at 5.30, A.M., came in at 5.30, P.M., Miles 88, Railway fare 1.30, Breakfast and dinner 50¢, tolls 7¢, Sivery  $\$2.00$   $\frac{2}{3}$  3.87,

Friday Night, 22, June 1877.

at B. beach, found all regular - heard that Jack Gaaffes - little boys had put out a herring seine on Thursday, and had caught 2,000 biscoos - warned Jack not to allow it any more. - thence up to Dan McFuzne Dan, hauled, and caught a quantity of these self same Cisco, or rather a better class of fish, - went out at 7, P.M. came in at 12.30, A.M., Miles 20, H & B. 2.00, C. J. Kerr - with me. -

Sat: 23, June 1877.

On B. beach again, - examined Dan's fish found them to be a better class of fish than the Winter Cisco, firm and hard. He went out at 5, A.M., came in at 9, A.M., Miles 18. Horse and Wagon 1.50, Ed Kerr with me. -

Sir,

23. June 1847.

With reference to the conversation I had with you on Friday last, 22<sup>nd</sup> instant, in relation to the erection of fishways in the mill dams of the several mill owners situated on the River Credit, ordered by the Fisheries department, to be built by them, in compliance with section 12, of the Fisheries Act. . . .

I may inform you, that I have served the necessary notices on the following persons, last Friday, -

1. Mr Edwin Turner - of Springfield, personally, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 1847, in his own house. . . .
2. John Armstrong, personally on the premises at Springfield, he is brother-in-law of Mr John Decees who rents the mill, from Mr W<sup>m</sup> Hall, the owner Springfield. . . .
3. Mr Robert Barber of Steelsville, I served him personally, and I conversed with him, and his brother William, they told me they would do whatever is required. . . .
4. Mr James Gooderham, Steelsville, I served the miller Fred<sup>l</sup> Stanwick, on the premises, who will have the notice given to Mr J - d - h - m . . . .
5. Mr G. K. Meattie - Steelsville, I served the miller on the premises, who gave me his name as Rob<sup>t</sup> Bonnard. . . .

I may mention for your information, that I am instructed by the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister to avail myself at all times of your services; in this, and all matters connected with the fish, and protection of fishes, &c on, and in the River Credit. -

I left a model with Mr Turner of Springfield for you, and with whom you will find it. . . .

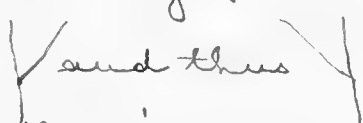
Mr Turner, will go heartily in to the construction of his fishway, which will be an encouragement to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Hall, and his Tenant Decees, - You will please see these (3) Springfield people at once

and urge them to begin immediately. . . .

Also see the Acts <sup>3</sup>, Managers, Beattie, and Mr Webb, as soon as possible, they live at Streetville, and urge them on with the construction of their respective fishways, - Mr Webb, will act for Mr Gooderham; - Gooderham's dam at Streetville, requires a thorough overhauling, and repairing, so that when you there, you will take the model with you, and give each of the mill owners, or occupants of the mills, the dimensions of the fishways, and parts thereof, as required by law, to be built by them, when you get the model from Mr Turner, you can keep it, in your own possession. . . .

You will find the scale thereon, marked a  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch to one foot. . . . The length of the model is 8 inches, say, 32 ft. long; within the fishway, the space in the model is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches; say 5 feet wide. - And the sides to the model is  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch, or 1 foot on the base width.

The entrance space is only  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch, one foot, however, as the lower end is supposed to be on the bottom of the River, and be under water at all times, this is immaterial. ;

Then as to the four cross pieces placed securely inside in the model thus . You will have to judge for yourself, as to the size, and dimensions and stability. Then as to back water pier, placed at the head of each fishway, you will have to see that it is substantially built of good, strong, and durable material, and that it is placed at its proper distance from the head of the fishway proper, as per model, so that the fishes of all kinds will have every water advantage after they get through at the top, to go into, and up stream at once. . . .

The work must be well done and in a substantial workmanlike manner, good sound material shall be the order of the day.

When they are finished, it will be part of your duty, to see that these fishways are always kept in an efficient and proper state of repair at all times, affording an easy passage always to the fishes in ascending the stream. -

As soon as I serve all the notices, I will again write you, in the mean time, please occasionally write me, how the work progresses; When any of the mill dam owners, have got out the material, let me know and I will come down at once, and fix the place in the dam best adapted for each fishway.

I Have &c.

Yours Minister,

— F. — F. — F.

John W. Kerr  
D. O.



Sir,

23<sup>rd</sup> June 1877.

In obedience to your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> instant, I beg most respectfully to furnish you with the information you ask for therein. 1<sup>st</sup>. The number of licenses issued for Serie, and net fishing on the Niagara River, between Chippawa, and Fort Erie, during the past five years. - - -

I beg in reply to state that the number of licenses issued for the year 1872, were two, as follows;

On 27. Feb: 1872, A Serie hauling license to Chester A. Starrie, fisherman, Fort Erie, cheque No. 140, amount. - \$ 4 25.00.

" 13. April. - A Serie hauling license to B.W. Hottle, Fort Erie, Spotsman, Jarner, and fisherman, cheque No. 499. amount. 5.00,

Total amount revenue received for year 1872. - \$30.00

I beg to state that the number of licenses issued for the year 1873, were three as follows;

On: 11<sup>th</sup> Feb: A Serie hauling license to Thomas Everett, fisherman, Bertie, cheque No. 121, amount. \$ 4 25.00,

On 14. Feb: A Serie hauling license to Chester A. Starrie, fisherman, Fort Erie, cheque No. 125, amount. - 25.00,

On 4<sup>th</sup> Augt, A Serie hauling license, to W. Staskin's Esq. Proprietor, Heavy Island, cheque No. 132, amount, 4.00,

Total amount revenue received for year 1873, - \$54.00

I beg to state that the number of licenses issued for the year 1874, were six, as follows;

On 23. April. - A Serie hauling license to Jacob Everett, Jarner, - Willoughby, cheque No. 207, amount. \$ 4.00

On 5. May, - A Serie hauling license to Chester A. Starrie, fisherman, Fort Erie, cheque No. 5, amt, 25.00.

" do - A Serie hauling license to Geo: Sutton fisherman, Fort Erie, cheque No. 5, amount. 25.00,

" do. - Hook license to Geo: Stouss, Bertie, do. - 2.00.

" do. - do, " Edw. Miller, do. do. - 1.00

" do. - do " Hy Edwin Miller, do do 1.00

Total amount, revenue received for year 1874, \$58.00

I beg to state that the number of licenses issued for the year 1875, were Seven, as follows; -

On the 18. Dec 1874, for year 1875, - A Seine hauling license, for Chester A. Harris, Fisherman, Fort Erie, <sup># 4</sup> cheque No: 62, amount, <sup># 4</sup> 25.00

On 2. Feb: 1875, A Seine hauling license to George Sketton Fisherman, Fort Erie, cheque No: 114, = 15.00.

" 17. Mar: A Seine do. do, " " 159, = 10.00. 25.00.

" 19. Mar: A Seine license, to John Everitt Fisherman (Fort Erie), Bartie cheque No: 163, amount, 25.00.

" 2. April, - A Seine hauling license to Jacob Everitt, of Willoughby, cheque No: 178, amount, 10.00.

" do, - Book license - to George House, Bartie, do. do, 2.00.

" do, - do. to Thos: James, Bartie, do. do, 1.00.

" do, - do, " John Everitt, do. do. do, 1.00.

" do, - do, " E. K. Miller, Bartie, do. do, 1.00.

10 May, do, " Chas: Deal, Fort Erie, cheque No: 1, amount, 1.00.

" do, - do, A. P. Shaw & Son, do. do. do, 2.00.

Total amount Revenue received for year 1875. - \$93.00

In conclusion, I beg to state that the number of licenses issued for year 1876, were three, as follows;

On 7. Feb: A Seine hauling license to Geo: Sketton Fisherman Fort Erie, cheque No: 120, amount, <sup># 4</sup> 50.00.

" 3. May, - A Seine hauling license to Edward Everitt Farmer, - Willoughby, cheque No: 5, amount 5.00.

" 6. May, - A Seine hauling license to John Everitt Fisherman - Bartie, cheque No: 10, amount, 15.00.

Total amount Revenue received for year 1876. - - \$70.00

2<sup>nd</sup> You request, - The Revenue derived therefrom in each year. - -

I beg to state that I have shown it as above, in each year, please refer to the last page, as per Note #:

3<sup>rd</sup> The class, and Condition of the Fisherman,

In reply, I beg to state that the fishermen, are, as such, working for a living, the former portion are well off: George Hutton, is very poor, and fishes for a Steam share. . . .

4<sup>th</sup> Whether it would be desirable for purposes of protection, and in order to afford better inducements, to sportsmen, to close that (portion) part of Niagara River against all fishing, and allow only angling therein. . . .

In reply to No. 4, I beg most respectfully to report, that I do not consider <sup>nor</sup> advisable, ~~not~~ desirable for the purposes of protection, and in order to afford better inducements to sportsmen, to close that part of Niagara River you refer to, as against all net fishing, and allow only angling therein, because from the facts, that for the four seasons, fished, during legal seasons in the Niagara River, on the Canadian side of the River, - within the bounds you have referred to there are about 20 seines, and other nets, fished in American waters of the River, on the American side of the River, during all seasons, and without any restrictions, nor regard to close season, and which our fishermen do observe. . . . These waters being "both fish abundantly?" and is a great breeding place, and nursery - for Lake Erie: - Besides set hooks, and long lines, are numerously fished, each year, during the winter and spring by Germans, French, Irish, Americans and other nationalities, residents of the City of Buffalo, and Black Rock, who in fishing for the Buffalo Market, for pike, pickerel, and sturgeon, destroy the young fish by millions as bait, to catch them. . . . These men fish to make a living by supplying the inhabitants of the large City of Buffalo; To set the River apart for 3 years, would be advisable, and stop all kinds of fishing therein during that period, but until an arrangement is made with the American Government, to

such an effect, who, it is to be hoped, would con-  
side with your views, and carry them into effect, and  
operation on their part, I can see no earthly use  
in attempting what you propose, as it would other-  
wise be so damaging to our fishermen, and their  
prospects in life. ---

I may here state, that I highly approve of your  
proposition, provided it would be carried out to  
the benefit of all persons concerned. ---

You will please perceive, what an extensive  
portion of the Niagara River, there is, as referred to  
by you, already within the Canadian boundary,  
and where no angling nor fishing of any kind is  
now being carried on either by fishermen or  
sportsmen.

\* In reference to my letter of 29, June 1874, Bank cheque  
No. 84. - I sent you the sum of \$22.50 of fines imposed,  
to which the prosecutor was entitled, and I under-  
stood Charles Beble Esq. J. P. Fort Erie, sent  
you a like sum of \$22.50, all of which is now  
respectfully submitted. - Total sent you \$45.  
fines. -

Yours, Minster  
H. H. H.

I Have &c,

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

P.S. Exclusive fishing is carried too far  
by the Buffalonians &c.

Yours, J. W. Kerr  
J. O.



My dear Sir,

27. June 1877.

I am in receipt of your note of the 25<sup>th</sup> instant. In receipt of this, you will please go to Mr John Jordan, Sr of Duffin's Creek, get from him my boat, the Oars, and paddle, - repair the boat, and then safely keep her for me in your boat house. - If you want to use her, you may do so, yourself - but take good care of her, for me until fall. -

If old Mr Jordan wants her, at any time let him have her, but she must be given back to you again, the Mill race is not the proper place to keep her in. -

No person is allowed to fish in any way, in Duffin's Creek, - without written authority from me, please find out for me at once, who is fishing at Shoal point - and the kind of nets they are fishing - also the names of the persons fishing at Frenchmans bay - and kind of nets, they are fishing there, do this immediately, and let me know. -

As you propose, I want you to watch at the mouth of Duffin's Creek, and if you find any one fishing nets there, in Lake Ontario, please let me know at once, and now bear in mind, that you are not to tell any one, that you are looking out for me. -

If you want leave to fish <sup>and angle</sup> in Duffin's Creek, let me know, and I will give you the authority in writing to do so. - Who speared last spring? - Who set gill nets, in the ponds last spring please answer. -

Mr John Piles,  
Duffin's Creek

Yrs truly  
John W. Allen  
J. A.

See

29. June 1877.

I have the honor to send you herewith,  
Bank cheque No. 282, for the sum of Thirteen  
dollars. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply this  
amount as License fees, for this current year,  
as follows:

1. David Fitch, M. Beach, "For seine hauling  
license in Lake Ontario, already received, con-  
tained, and delivered. - 10.00

2. William King, Beamsville, "A Boat  
License to fish 400 yards of White fish gill  
nets, not less than 5" inches extension  
measure, in Lake Ontario, in front of  
the Township of Clinton, say: from  
Korkles Creek, to one mile east, -

Please send me license. - - 3.00

Total \$ 13.00

Yours Minister,

I Have &c.

& & &

John W. Kerr

&c.

Wednesday 27. June 1877.

On M. Beach - saw David Tyson. N. Cory  
all. Cory - David Fitch - Jack Laafe. and Ben;  
Golds hauling for White fish - Ben. Golds got  
a salmon  $2\frac{3}{4}$  pounds weight. Redkin and his  
son Henry - hauled in one sturgeon, and  
about ten White fish - Two farmers af-  
sisting, went out at 7.30. p. m.  
Miles 26. H & B - Charles J. Kerr  
were with me. - came in at 12.30. a. m.

Thursday 28. June 1877.

On B. beach - Sam McNamee Jr, and Bell Constables met me at Fitches by appointment. Podkins did not haul - got out summons for Podkins and his son Henry - for fishing for and catching and killing white fish without a license. - went out at 7. p.m. came in at 12. Miles 24. A & B - C. J. Kerr, with me. - David Fitch - paid me his license fee - 10. - for seining ground - per letter 29. of June 1877.

Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup>, July 1877. -

On B. beach, great discontent there amongst fishermen - because Thomas Joyce - whose fishing ground is a Herring seine ground - has been catching Creek Herring - they say their white fish seining license being debarred from doing the same. - Saw Dan McGwynne make a haul - no fish caught - Heard Jack Baaffe made a haul and that he caught several Creek Herring - Heard that Tom Campbell - the Light House Keeper - was the author of a letter recently published in the Hamilton News papers thus: -

went out at 7. p.m. came in at 12. Miles 20. A & B. <sup>4</sup>2.00<sup>4</sup>  
C. J. Kerr, with me. -

Sir,

4, July 1877,

I have the honor to report, for your information that the White fish run in Lake Ontario, on Burlington Beach, is now over. - -

I consider it my duty therefore to bring under your notice, that there is a very great abundance of Herring close in to the shore on the White fish Seining grounds daily. - - I beg most respectfully to recommend for your immediate consideration that permission be at once granted by you to the Licensed Fishermen of B. beach, who are in good standing, to catch herring, with Herring seines, having centres, with meshes not less than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches extension measure. - And I recommend that the same be carried on by Set hauls only. - - -

And altho' the fishermen require this indulgence I request that a proviso, may be entered in the permission granted by you - that no fisherman shall glut the market, by catching on such occasions more herring than he can always sell at paying and remunerative prices. - -

I recommend that this permission may be granted by you, free of charge. - The white fish Seining has been very slim,

Hon. Minister,

Y. Y. Y.

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr

D.D.



Sd.

6. July 1877.

I have the honor to send you herewith, my account, and diary for the quarter ending the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June last. - Also petty expenses incurred by me during the same period. - - -

To amount of diary herewith. -	\$ 88.25.
" Voucher pto: 1. - Charles J. Kerr, Boatman. -	16.00.
" do " 2. John W. Kerr, Stationery. -	1.80.
" do " 3. - John W. Kerr, Postages. -	1.36.
" do " 4. - John W. Kerr, Telegrams, &c. -	1.10.
" do " 5. - John W. Kerr, Office Rent. -	5.00.
(Miles 1760. - Travelled.)	Total \$ 113.51.

In submitting this account for your consideration, I may mention for your information, that I have been nineteen different nights and days on duty on B. bay, and B. beach, during the quarter, and when the active duties of my office, and the obligations as by Law established, made it imperative upon me to go there, whereas I have only charged the dept with only 3 days; As compared with the corresponding quarter of last year, there is a saving of \$ 302.83. Of this sum \$ 170. was paid to Salmon River fms, \$ 89.40, for New Boat, boat house, &c, while my own expenses is left by \$ 43.43, - making the Total \$ 302.83.

In conclusion, I can assure you, that pay or no pay I shall continue, "when necessary, and I find it is so," to visit B. bay, and B. beach, as I have always done heretofore. -

I Have. &amp;c.

Hon: Minister,  
H. H. H.  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
D. O.

Ser.

6. July 1877.

I have the honor to draw your attention to the annexed article, I cut from a Toronto News paper, by which it appears a Mr. J. Stewart Snipper - is an applicant for a portion of the Marsh, Ashbridges bay. I presume, situated within the City limits - Toronto.

Will you be pleased to protect all our fishing interests in connection with any patent, that may be issued by the Local Govt. Toronto, of Ashbridges bay, and Marsh, - to the Corporation of the City of Toronto.

Please excuse me, but I believe it is my duty to draw your attention to this matter.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
The Minister,

V. V. V.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

My dear Ser.

6. July 1877.

You will please find your license here. - You owe me two dollars still.

Yrs Truly,

Mr John Proud  
Whitby P. Office,

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

My dear Sir,

6. July 1877,

I send your license herewith, but some person complain of you. You can pay me as soon as you can, I went to Oakville and Jordan, to see John Bell, Fisherman, visited him each time, - I have had a letter from him, - If you hear of any other person - please write me. -

Mr W. H. Ingladeau

Fisherman

Toronto, P. Office.

Yrs truly

John W. Kent

T.O.

Sir,

You will please find your license herewith, -  
Hamilton,

6. July 1877,

James Durham Esq

Grimsby, Onto

Yrs &c.

John W. Kent

T.O.

My dear Sir,

You will please find your licenses (2) herewith; You can send me the five dollars, for your full net license; I have also Bell's license for him - where shall I find him now?

Yrs truly

John W. Kent

Mr. Richard Gilbert,

Middleport.

Jordan, P. Office,

6. July 1877, T.O.

P.S. I have receipted your Boat License just as if you had already paid me. Knowing that you will do so.

Yrs &c

John W. Kent

T.O.

My dear Sir,

On my return from Toronto, on Wednesday evening last, I saw a small sail boat out in the Lake, in front of Port Credit.

If any person fishing gill nets there, please answer?—

I also saw a seine at Pt Credit, on the lakes, when passing down, in the morning; and they appeared to be hauling, when I was returning. Is this Reid's seine?—

How are you getting on with the fishways, —

Yrs Truly  
 Jas. J. Wilcox  
 D. Business

John W. Kerr

D.O.

Port Credit.

6. July 1877.

P.S. Is Blade, and Mr Reid, catching many Creek herring, I hope they don't haul in young White fish. Yrs Truly

John W. Kerr,

D.O.

Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> July 1877.

—On Toronto Island, to enquire into the seine fishing there;— found that abundance of Herring, had been caught. — say \$100, worth per week. — for each licensee. — Went out at 8. a.m. came in at 6.30, p.m. Miles 92. Ry fare \$2, dinner 25, Boat fare 50.



Mr J. W. Kerr,

Waubesaue, June 27, 1877.

Dear Sir, — Myself and other fishermen up here in Collingwood, wishes you to inform us, if five inch mesh gill nets would be lawful on Lake Ontario, that is to use them for killing both white fish and Trout, the same as we use them up here on Georgian Bay, and Lake Superior. — If so, some of the Collingwood Boats, wishes to go down from here, and try the fishing on Lake Ontario. — You will also confer a great favour, — by sending me up one of the latest books with the Fishery Act, by return of mail. — There is considerable trouble up here between the fishermen, and the late Inspector, Jas: Patton. — The Majority wishes now they had applied to Government for Mr J. W. Kerr, they see their error now, as there is a great deal of favour, and partiality, shown by James Patton to his few fishermen friends viz his relations. — He will find it will not continue long, as there is war now declared against him. — Now Mr Kerr, please don't fail to answer immediately — and your kindness will be remembered. — Waubesaue is on the North side of Georgian Bay. — Fishing is good, The price is 6¢, each, for white fish, and Trout, which kills it altogether. — I remain Y<sup>rs</sup> respectfully.

James Brothers. —

Hoping this will find you and yours all in good health. —

Mr J. W. Kerr,  
Fishery Inspector  
Hamilton, Ont<sup>y</sup>

Sir

10. July 1877.

I have the honor to report, that Blue back Herring that are being caught at present in Lake Erie, in Pound Nets, by Messrs. Innis and Allan, are infected with living worms which can be easily detected by cutting these fishes open in the back. -- As this matter has commenced to attract the attention of several persons, who have drawn my attention to the fact, I believe it is my duty to report the matter to the department. --

It is a well known fact, that during the months of July and August, blue back herring are invariably filled with worms, more particularly those caught in Shallow Lake Erie - water. --

I consider Messrs. Innis and Allan, as an immediate preventative, should be ordered to lift their pound nets instantly - and fish no more until the 1st of September next. --

The Herring, in which the worms were found, are at present being sold at Hamilton Market, by Mr. R. D. Bates, Irish dealer, - who gets his supply of these fish, from Innis and Allan - Port Ryerse and Dover. --

I Have &amp;c,

Hon: Minister,  
Y. Y. Y.

John W. Kerr  
D.D.

My dear Sir,

Yours of 2<sup>nd</sup> instant, received, please send me the number of yards, and the description of the gill net, whether it is Herring, or White fish gill nets, you want to fish, and in front of the lot or lots, and the Lower-ship, where in Lake Erie - in front of the same, you propose fishing; and I will obtain for you a license to fish, as moderate as possible, please answer at once. -

Yours truly,  
John W. Kent

Mr Edward Stamer.  
Low Banks, -  
P. Office.

S. Overseer,  
Hamilton, Onto.  
10. July 1877.

Sir,

9. July 1877.

I have the honor to submit for your perusal, a letter I have just received from Mr James Barrether, fisherman of Waukegan, on the north side of Georgian Bay. . . .

I believe it would be a splendid thing if six or eight of the bollingwood boats, with their 15, or 20, gill nets each, of 600 yards long each, were to come down, to Lake Ontario, and fish. - I submit the matter for your personal Consideration. . . .

In my division of Lake Ontario, there is ample room for this number of boats, and for about fifty miles of White fish, and Salmon Trout gill nets. . . .

I presume you are already aware, that a Fish company, has been formed this year at bollingwood, under the name of Leckie & Co., - Canada Fish company, with a general office open at Toronto, for despatching White fish and Trout, all over Canada, and the United States. . . .

Mr Andrew Robt. fisherman - bollingwood, assists in the management at Toronto, and from him I recently heard that 24 Boats were employed, for the first time, <sup>as far up as Killarney.</sup> at this season of the year, on the north shore of the Georgian bay - fishing for this company, and selling their large numbers of fish to them at very small prices. . . There is too much fishing, and it is unprofitable to the fishermen, except by their catching vast quantities of fish. . . It is excessive fishing of such an extensive character, as will in a very few years (3 or 4) completely fish the place out, if not checked by, you. - All of which is respectfully submitted,

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

I Have &c.  
John W Kerr  
D.O.



Sir,

11. July 1877,

I have the honor to send you herewith, Bank cheque  
No: 344, for the sum of Twenty five dollars. - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount as li-  
cense fees, for this current year as follows;

1. Mr James Boutwell, Fisherman, Niagara - "For Seine hauling  
license, in Lake Ontario, at the Four Mile Creek, already received,  
paid for and delivered, - amount now sent. - \$ 15.00.

2. Mr James Boutwell. do. do, for Boat li-  
cense to fish 3,000 Yards of Gill Nets, in Lake Ontario,  
Township of Niagara - received and delivered, - 5.00.

3. Messrs Charles, and Alfred Ball, of Niagara,  
for Boat License to fish 3,000 yards of Gill Nets,  
in Lake Ontario, township of Niagara, received, and  
already delivered. 5.00.

Total. - - \$ 25.00

Respectfully Submitted,

I Have &c.

Hon: Minister,

H. H. H.

Ottawa.

John H. H.

G. O. -

Sir,

18. July 1877.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> instant, in which you say: -- "For instance it is noticed that in the present account you paid no less than seven different visits to Niagara, for the purpose of delivering licenses, &c. &c, could not a little forethought have obviated some of these visits, and thereby reduced your expenditure?" --

In reply to this rebuff, I beg to state that I may have made a mistake - by entering seven visits to Niagara, however! it appears by my diary from which I copied - that I paid only four visits to Niagara during the period you refer to; One of them, was at the instance of the dept, to give back a Seine, and two boats, I had previously seized from Jas: Intergal, an American citizen, who had committed a trespass in Dominion Waters, and at the same time delivered to him a license from the dept to fish in the waters he had previously trespassed in, as <sup>then</sup> reported to you. . . . .

The other three visits to Niagara, were made during close season for pickerel, and close season for bass. Special purpose referred to me, by the dept Mr Wright - application for a fishery, &c. &c, see my reports of 23<sup>rd</sup> of April, 5<sup>th</sup> of May, and 17. of May last, in reply to which, you have already approved of my proceedings, although you now condemn me, - through as I am led to believe a mistake in counting the visits. - You may, or I may - have counted in my (return) trips from Niagara to Hamilton. . .

My visits are only made always when it becomes absolutely necessary, and for the active performance of my duties, and the welfare of the fisheries. -

My visits are never made trips of pleasure - except it is the conscientious pleasure, I always enjoy in doing my duty faithfully. - - -

Except the license delivered to Jas. Fitzgerald, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, and those I personally delivered at Niagara on the 4<sup>th</sup> of June - all the rest, the majority, were delivered through the post office. -

In Conclusion I may say, that I shall still continue to use forethought in the discharge of my duty. - There shall be henceforth no outlay nor no expenses, but what is absolutely necessary and needed for the active discharge of my outside duties - With due Respect,

Hon. Ministers see page (363) I Have &c,  
 H. J. F. John W. Kerr  
 J.O.

Sir:

18. July 1877.

With reference to No. 2, of my letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> day of June last, will you be pleased to let me have Mr. Kings, Boat license as therein applied for.

Hon. Ministers.

I Have &c

H. J. F.

John W. Kerr  
 J.O.

Thursday, 19. July 1877.

at Menomona - to inspect fishing there, saw Paddy Stand - went out at 6. a.m. came in at 2. p.m., went on B. Bch on my return - Miles 34. At B. 2.00, Break fast 25.

Memorandum of Visits - Paid to Niagara  
for Quarters, ending 30<sup>th</sup> of June 1877. -

Visit  
No. 1.

3<sup>rd</sup> April. - - At St. Catharines, and Niagara. - - -  
4<sup>th</sup> - - - At Niagara, and back to Hamilton. - -

Visit  
No. 2.

19. April, at Fort Erie, and Niagara.  
20. - - - At Pt. Dalhousie, 15, 16. Mile Creek, and the  
Sawney fisheries - Niagara. - - -  
21<sup>st</sup> - - - At Niagara, and back to Hamilton. -

No. 3.  
Visit.

23<sup>rd</sup> May, - At S. B. Queenston and Niagara Fc,  
24. - - - At Niagara S. B. Fc, and Hamilton, -  
Went and returned. - The G. W. Railway  
fare being reduced. - Queens Birthday, Fc,

Visit  
No. 4.

4<sup>th</sup> June, - At St. Catharines, Niagara and back  
to Hamilton, - at 1. o'clock a. m. on the  
5<sup>th</sup> June. - -

P.S. - I may mention, that I invariably purchase  
return Tickets on the Railways, by which I save a  
very large amount of money for the Fisheries de-  
partment. -

Respectfully Submitted.

John W. Kerr

F. O.

Hon. Minister,  
F. F. Fc,

Hamilton, Onto  
18. July 1877.

Saturday 21. July 1877. -

At Toronto and Pt. Credit, - found all regular,  
went out at 8. a. m. came in at 5. p. m.  
Miles 92. Ry fare \$2.00, dinner 25<sup>¢</sup>.

Heard from Mr. Doyle of the great loss of  
fish - by Andrew & Co. -



Sir,

19. July 1877,

I have the honor to apply to you, for fishing licenses for the undermentioned in Lake Ontario, during this current year. . . . The license fee's will be ready on delivery of the license to each. . . .

1. Col: S. B. Villiers - license to fish in Lake Ontario, on B. beach, same as last year. 1 # 4  
5.00,

2. Col: Wm Patton, for a license to fish in Lake Ontario, on B. beach, same as last year. - # 4  
5.00,

3. Alex: Rollo, B. beach, "For a boat license to fish in Lake Ontario, 2,400 yards ofisco gill nets, with meshes not less than 2½" inches, extension measure - 2,800 yds of Salmon Trout gill net, and 1,500 yards of White fish gill nets, to be not less than 5" inches extension measure," - Say license fee . . . . # 4  
10.00,

4. Isaac Durham, - Grimsby, - Another Boat license - to fish 400 yards of Stewing gill net, in Lake Ontario, in front of lot 3, in the 1st concession of Grimsby - the meshes to be 3" inches extension measure. - The license fee is to be four dollars. -

Mr Durham, wants to have a clause inserted in the license that he shall be permitted to land on the beach, in front of lot No. 3, -

There is a Methodist camp meeting held every year on lot No. 3, - and I presume he wants this authority for landing there, under high banks, - so as not to be molested by the Methodists. -

Yours Minister,

H. H. H.

I Have the

John W. Kerr

C. A.

Sir,

23. July 1877.

In reply to your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> instant, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April last, I beg most respectfully to report for your information; as follows; -

On the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April last, I sent you, and I now repeat the same: -

1. Alexander Rollo, B. beach, for pike gill net license to fish 700 yards in B. bay - per limits herewith. - \$ 2  
5.00.
2. David Gitch, B. beach, for pike gill net license to fish 500 yards in B. bay - per do. 4.00.

On the 17. day of April I sent you, and I now repeat the same. - - -

3. Ben. Golds, B. Beach, fishing 500 yards pike gill net, in B. bay, description already sent of limits - 5.00.
4. John Laaffe, B. Beach, for fishing 500 yards of pike gill net, in B. bay, do. do. do. 5.00.
5. Ric. Laaffe, B. Beach, for fishing 500 yds of pike gill nets, in B. bay. do. do. - 5.00.
- 6 & 7. Robert Fletcher, and Wm. Wapen, for fishing 500 yards of pike gill nets, in B. bay. do. do. 5.00.
8. Maternie Corey, - B. Beach, for fishing 250 yds of pike gill nets, in B. bay - do. do. 2.50.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> of June last, I sent you, and I now repeat to you the same. - -

9. Fred. M. Corey, B. beach, gill net license to catch pike in B. bay, countersigned, and delivered. 4.00

Total \$35.50

Thus showing that 3,850 yards of pike gill nets were licensed as above; and that \$35.50. was also sent you. - - -

I beg most respectfully to add; that I will send you shortly ten dollars more; which will complete the pike gill net fishing in B. bay. east, last April.

10. Dan McGoyne - Fishing 500 yards pike gill nets in  
B. bay, within limits, sent the department, # 4  
5.00

11. Duncan McGillivray, Fishing 400 yards pike gill net  
in B. bay do. do. do. 4.00.

12. Sam Dynes, Fishing 100 yards pike gill net in  
B. bay, do. do. do. 1.00

13. Jonathan Corey, B. Bay, did not fish,  
I permitted Henry Bodkins, B. Bay, to fish  
100 yards of pike gill nets, and as he is poor, his mother  
blind, and father sick, I did not charge him. -

Respectfully Submitted.

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

I Have &c.

John W. K.

J.O.

Copy of Licenses, which I have already  
sent you. - - -

"In Burlington Bay, South and East of  
a line drawn direct from the line fence between  
Grant and Starveys' farms in Barton, to Martin's  
Wharf on B. beach; But no gill nets are al-  
lowed to be fished by you, nor any other person  
in Starveys, Lottbridges, Gages, and Depews, Seards,  
Jones, and Starveys inlets of B. bay, and Big  
Creek pond, and Big Creek, east of the Road  
Bridge, leading to the beach. - - -

This license will be only in operation  
until the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 1877. -

Hamilton,

Copy.

John W. K.

23. July 1877.

J.O.

Sir,

23. July 1877.

I have the honor to apply to you, for Boat license to fish in Lake Ontario, during this current year, as follows;

1. John Staud, - Grimsby, - Boat License to fish in Lake Ontario, in front of the township of Grimsby, 1500 Yards of 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " mesh, white fish gill nets, 1000 Yards of Sterring gill net 3" mesh, - 10.00.

2. Patrick Staud - Winona, Boat license to fish in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Grimsby. . . .

1200 Yards of White fish gill nets 5" mesh. -

1200 Yards of White fish gill nets 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " mesh. -

800 Yards of Sterring gill net, 3" mesh. - 10.00.

3. - Ric: Laaffe - B. Bch, Boat License to fish 1200 Yards of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " mesh, Sterring and bass gill nets, in Lake Ontario, in front of the Township of Saltfleet. . . .

4. Ben: Blunk, B. Bch, Boat license to fish in Lake Ontario, 1000 yards of Sterring gill net, and bass gill nets, not less than 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " mesh; between the Road, leading to the village of Stony Creek, and the Road east of Alexander Gray's farm, say: in front of Jones pond, township of Saltfleet. - the license is to be . . . 5.00

I Have &c.

Hon. Minister,

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr  
D.O.



So. Mr John W. Kerr, Port Maitland

July 23<sup>rd</sup> 1847.-

Dear Sir, I would beg to inform you that I would like to have the privilege of setting one pound net either in what is called Oplats bay, or in the bay, to the east of the east pier of Port Maitland, since you visited this station there has been a man here by the name of Bringham, claiming that you had nothing to do with the fishing grounds here, and informed me that if I wanted to fish in future I would have to apply to him, and having made arrangements and got one pound net, I wrote him, and he informs me, that I cannot have any ground, and in getting my license for Seine this spring, Mr Law confined me to 300 yards from the pier and would not let me have more ground. . . .

Now I thought I would write to you, and see what you could do in the matter for me, as I do not think it is using me right. . . I having paid licenses for the last 10 years, and my being a citizen I do think I had ought to have a privilege to fish here in preference of these Americans coming here for a short time; my home and family are here, and I am willing to pay a license and always have done - which you know, and should have written to you before had not the <sup>Mr</sup> Bringham have been here, and told me, that neither you or <sup>the</sup> Law had anything to do with it. -

You formerly rented me the ground from Sydes point to Poppo's point, which I would like to get again, and if not

if I could have the bags on both sides  
of the piers or either one; at present I would  
be satisfied, but to be shut out altogether.  
I feel that I am not rightly dealt with,  
hoping you will endeavour to do what  
is right for me, which I have always  
trusted you to do, and hoping you will  
give this your earliest attention, as I  
would like to get my net in as soon  
as possible, for fall fishing. I will  
wait for your reply. —

I am Sir,

Yours &c

Henry Rofs.

Read, copied, and reported upon to the  
M. The Minister, &c, &c, herewith.

27. July 1877.

Yrs Respectfully  
John W. Ross

D. O.

.0.

Monday 23. July 1877.

Off to Georgetown, Novak, Stuttonville and  
Churchville - thence to Salmonville Glen-  
Williams, and Barbara Paper Mill - saw-  
ing paper on the mill dam owners to  
put in fish-ways - thence off to Erin  
Village - went out at 6. a. m. came in  
at 9. p. m. - sick all day. Miles 75.  
My fare 90<sup>¢</sup>. Breakfast, dinner tea and  
bed 1.00<sup>¢</sup>. St and Buggy 3.00<sup>¢</sup>, Stage 50<sup>¢</sup>.

Georgetown, complained of.  
for fishing on Sunday 22.  
of July at Georgetown.

10.

Tuesday 24. July 1877.

Off to Fish Town - alias Belle Fontaine, the  
banks of the Credit, - Ruessdale - Boston, and  
Chatterham, serving notices on mill owners  
to put fishways in dams - went out at  
7. a.m. came in at 7. p.m. - miles 30. Stk  
Buggy \$2.50<sup>¢</sup> dinner for two<sup>50<sup>¢</sup></sup>, tea for two<sup>50<sup>¢</sup></sup>, breakfast  
just 50<sup>¢</sup> had 25<sup>¢</sup>, - Frank Taylor, and the Jordan in Bank

Wednesday. 25. July 1877.

10.

At Erie Village, Georgetown and Hamilton -  
went out at 5.30, a.m. came in at 3. p.m.  
miles 52, Ry fare 90<sup>¢</sup>, Stage 50<sup>¢</sup>. Buggy 50<sup>¢</sup>  
dinner and breakfast 50<sup>¢</sup>. -

My dear Sir. -

I send you Mr John Wells, because  
please send me his license fee on your receiving  
his license. - - I have allowed you to go down and  
fish between Port Union, and Whitby township, in Pick-  
ering. - - It is too early yet, for you to fish there, send  
your own money also. -

Yr<sup>y</sup> truly,

John W. Kerr.

S.O.

Mr Rich Gillett

Fisherman -

Middleport, Jordan P. Office.

Hamilton, Onto

28, July 1877

Sir!

27, July 1877.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> instant, and in obedience to your request, I beg most respectfully to report that the ten dollars remitted to the department, by James Cahill Esq<sup>r</sup>, Police Magistrate of the City of Hamilton, is  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a fine of \$20, imposed upon Mr J. L. Englehart - the Proprietor of the Silver Star, Oil Refining Works, situated at the head of Sherman's Inlet - B. Bay - in the township of Barton, east of the City of Hamilton. - - -

For allowing Coal Oil, and Acids, and other deleterious substances to pass from your Oil Refinery, and to enter the waters of B. Bay, a place frequented by fish, in contravention of the Fisheries Act? -

To this Complaint, Mr Maurice Frank, the Agent here - pleaded guilty, when a fine of \$20, and \$3.50, the Magistrate and Constables Costs were imposed and since paid. -

The particulars were fully set forth in my report to you of the 13<sup>th</sup> of April last, to which you will please refer; - The Complaint being previously laid, the case was laid over, the Magistrate and I, however! on consultation, thought it more advisable to impose the fine "As pike and bass, caught in B. Bay - were impregnated with Coal Oil, and thereby rendered unfit for food? -

This offence happened before the New Tanks were built and set in their places, for the reception of the Oil Acids &c, and it was when the agent placed a quantity of the refuse in a Poyen well, from which a portion of it escaped during the early thaw into the waters of



Ms. bag. - With due respect,

I Have &c,

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Ministers,

&c. &c. &c.

John W. Kerr

Y. O.

Sir,

27. July 1877. -

I have the honor to submit for your consideration; an application from Mr Henry Ross, fisherman - at Port Maitland - resident on the east side of the mouth of the Grand River, in my division: - For a special license to fish a Round net in Lake Erie, either east or west of the mouth of the G. River, within given points, the same being in the Townships of Sherbrook, and Deane, County of Monck.

I may here state that I strongly recommend, that you will be pleased to grant this license now applied for, to Mr Henry Ross, who is the originator of the fisheries at the mouth of the Grand River, in Lake Erie, and as such, has prior claims for such indulgence, according to your standard rules, and rights, over every other person. . . .

Mr Henry Ross, - holds an annual license to fish in the Grand River, now under the supervision of Mr Henry Law, of Hurville, Fishery Overseer, - of a portion of that stream. - -

And Mr Henry Ross, - also holds a license to fish east of the east pier, within 300 yards, of the mouth of the Grand River, in Lake Erie, at which place neither Mr Bingham, nor yet Mr Law, have any jurisdiction, altho' it does appear both these persons have been - looking it over Mr Henry Ross. -

I find Mr Charles L. Bingham, Pleasant Hill, whom I presume Mr Henry Ross, alludes to, in his letter, is fishery Overseer

Overseer - of that part of the Counties of Norfolk, and Staldemund, fronting on Lake Erie."

The County of Staldemund, as far as my knowledge serves me, terminates in Lake Erie, on the townline, between Southauga, and the township of Deun, about 2 miles west of the mouth of the Grand River; - Deun being in the County of Monck. - - -

Mr Bingham, has no business that I am aware of, for to interfere with, nor annoy Mr Henry Ross, - my fisherman - resident in my division, except he finds him committing a contravention of the Fisheries Act, or by some special authority from you, - neither of which he appears to be endowed with.

Neither has Mr Henry Law, any right to step beyond his own fishing limits division, except with my consent, or by special orders from you, or for to take proceedings ag<sup>st</sup> Mr Ross, for a contravention of the Fisheries Act, but still it does appear by Mr Styr Ross's letter, that he does so. - - -

I do declare to you Mr Basset, it is with reluctance that I, complying with the wishes of Mr Styr Ross, - draw your attention to the interference of these young fishing officers, with this old fisherman; - -

The points referred to, in Lake Erie, in the letter of Mr Ross, - are situated east and west of the Grand River, - in the County of Monck, - and has been occupied by Mr Styr Ross, since my first appointment until such interference have taken place, and according to my own idea of matters are within my division, - hence I hope

you will be pleased to grant a special license to Mr. Henry Kofs <sup>for</sup> to fish a power net, in any place, within the given points, but not within  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile of the mouth of the Grand River, on either side, the same to be subject to set rules and regulations of the department, and the Fisheries Act; please send the same to me for to countersign, and deliver, I will pay the amount of license, which will be satisfactory, and meet your approval.

Mr. Henry Kofs, who is an intelligent, fisherman, submits his mind of the way he has been treated by Messrs. Law and Bingham, who enjoy no control over him in Lake Erie, whatever, his letter is now sent you and with due respect.

Yours, Minister

H. H. H.

I have &c.

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Confidential?

My dear Mr. Rofs. -

I am in receipt of your application for a license to fish a pound net in Lake Erie, - either east, or west of the mouth of the Grand River, on your old licensed fishing ground. -

In reply, I beg to assure you, that I have recommended you in the strongest manner to the Fisheries Dept. in Ottawa - for the same - and I do expect a pound net license will be granted to you. -

You should have applied to me in the first place, and I do think you would have had your license long ago. - - -

Mr. Brighams division, is that part of Norfolk and Haldimand Counties, in front of Lake Erie. The town-line between South Bruce, and Dunn, divides Haldimand from Monck, so that you will perceive Mr. Brigham cannot touch you, nor has no control over you. - because your old fishing ground, in Lake Erie, as licensed to you by me, is in the bounty of Monck. -

Mr. Henry Law, is only a Fisheries Officer, for the Grand River - he has no jurisdiction over you in Lake Erie, and you can tell him so. - - -

On my return home here, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June last, I sent down your receipt you got from Mr. Law for the \$15, and in reply I got a letter, dated Ottawa 12, June 1877, thus: Sir, In answer to your communication of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, I am to inform you, that the license issued this Mr. Law in favour of Mr. Henry Rofs, is for leave to fish in the Grand River. The fee \$15, was remitted to this



department, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> ultimo?

Now according to this letter, you would still owe me your license for last year, and this, for fishing in Lake Erie, - east, of the east pier of the Grand River, Port Maitland - however! please send me your license for this year, and for last year, and as soon as I get up your ground net license, I will write to the Fisheries Department, Ottawa, again. - The same, must stick to the truth, as 300 yards in Lake, east, of the east pier, at Port Maitland, is not in the Grand River. -

If you have last years license send it to me, also. Had you sent me your license for last year and this for your fishing ground in Lake Erie, I would have saved you all the trouble and annoyance you have been subjected to, about your Lake Erie, fishing by Lawe and Bingham. -

Please do what I ask you, on receipt, and keep your own counsel.

Yrs Sincerely

John W. Ross

D. O.

27. July 1877

Mr Henry Rolfe,  
Fisherman.

Port Maitland,

Dear Mr. Rolfe, -

Where is Mr. Post, Has he lifted the ground nets at Full Island when does he intend setting there again, How many barrels of fish did Mr. Post Catch there, their Market Value, I will require to know all this, the fishing was carried on in my vision -

Yrs Sincerely  
John W. Ross  
D. O.

27 July 1877.

My dear Sir,

Will you please find your license herewith. - Remember you promised me, that Noble Keith, is not to fish under this license; Whenever he applies, and sends me the money, I will get him a license.

Wm. W. King  
Beauséville,

Y<sup>rs</sup> &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

28. July 1877.

My dear Sir,

Will you be pleased to find your license herewith. - It is not necessary to insert in your license, that you can land in front of the camp ground. - The Navigation, and Fisheries law provides for that.

Isaac Durham Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Grimsby  
Ont<sup>o</sup>.

Y<sup>rs</sup> &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

28. July 1877.

Tuesday. 31. July 1877.

St<sup>h</sup> Catharines, and Niagara, in consequence of a letter of Complaint made ag<sup>t</sup> John Bolton. for throwing fish guts and offals into the Niagara River. - at Niagara, went with Jas. Cartmell, before Wm. Kirby Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. and talked the Complaint over - went out at 7.30. a. m. came in at 1.30. p. m. - miles 50. - Ry fare 80. <sup>¢</sup> Bus 15, <sup>¢</sup> Stage 50, dinner, tea and bed 75. - - - about the Town of Niagara, hunting up Witnesses. - - - <sup>¢</sup> 220.

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> August 1877.

Before W<sup>m</sup> Kerby Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. - James Caribwell, made a sworn Complaint against Jack Thompson - also against John Bolton - of Niagara - for putting fish guts and offals in the waters of the Niagara River, and on the Thomas Elliotts and the Thomas Moirs seine hauling ground - Niagara - Also got out Witness summonses - for Thomas Elliott, Thomas Moir, - the Case came off at 3. p. m. - Thomas Moir, being absent, the Case against John Bolton - was adjourned until 3. p. m. - the next day, - a Witness summons was got out against Bolton, for John Thompson - Thompson pleaded guilty to the charge. - Thomas Moir, and John Thompson - were summoned to day, to give evidence, gave Sam Proctor 50<sup>¢</sup>, for attending as Witness. - Board \$1.

Thursday, 2. August 1877. -

Attended before W<sup>m</sup> Kerby Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. Also Mr Mayor Pafford, was present on the Bench, - Thomas Moir, and John Thompson, were sworn and examined ag<sup>t</sup> John Bolton. -

John Bolton, was fined \$5, and \$4.85 & Costs, or 20 days in Jail, - and John Thompson, was fined \$1, and \$4.85 & Costs, or 15 days in Jail - which was instantly paid. - Board, \$1. - - -

Friday, 3. August 1877.

At Niagara, St<sup>l</sup> Catharines, and Hamilton, went out at 10. a. m. came in at 5. p. m. - Miles 50. Railway fare 80<sup>¢</sup>, Board \$1. - Stage 50<sup>¢</sup>, Street car 5<sup>¢</sup>. -

I got half the fines 3.00, and 50<sup>¢</sup>, for attending as Witness, in the Cases - being examined regarding the offences committed - and consulted by the Magistrates. -

Mr. John Bolton,  
Fisherman,

Niagara. --- It was distinctly understood, between you and I, last spring, that you were to fish the then centre of your white fish seine, a little smaller, than 3" inches, extension measure, please remember, that you can never fish the centre again for white fish. --- Three inch centre, being considered sufficient for all purposes by the fisheries department in future for Niagara fishing, prepare a new centre, and govern yourself accordingly. ---

A report was made to me, however! I may say; not by any person living in Niagara, - that gill nets less than 5" inches extension measure was fished for white fish in Canadian waters, by Niagara fishermen, last May, which is contrary to law. ---

I also heard that sein's hauling fishermen, and throwing gill net fishermen, caught pickerel in close season. - The fisheries dept. do expect that the Niagara fishermen will henceforth duly observe the law. ---

Hamilton, Ont.

10 August 1877.

By order,  
John W. Sewell,  
J. O.

postages. 4  
25.5



## Notice.

Mr John Bolton,  
Fisherman. -

Niagara.

With reference to the  
fine imposed upon you  
and John Thompson, on last

Tuesday, in Niagara; I have now to draw your  
attention again, to the fishing ground beach on the  
Niagara River, behind Tom Moore's Fish House.

The remains of your pig pen, which is a filthy  
nuisance, must be instantly removed; all the logs,  
timbers, wood, and stones belonging to you, now  
between the Ferry House, and Tom Moore's Fish  
House, on the beach, or bank of the Niagara  
River, must be also removed by you therefrom  
forthwith. - - -

And take further notice, that, nothing in future  
of any kind, will be allowed to be on, or to remain  
on the beach, or bank of the Niagara River, ex-  
cept boats, boat Houses, Reels for fishing nets, or  
other fishing apparatus, fish after being caught, and  
landed in fish Houses, or until sold, and disposed  
of. - - -

The beach must in future be always kept  
open, be clean, "boats well pulled up", and free  
from dead fish, fish heads, and fish guts, and ob-  
struction of all kinds; Dead fish, and fish  
guts can only be disposed of as the law  
provides; Mr Thomas Elliott, <sup>the Licensor of the Fishery</sup> has the Act. -

A great many people, besides fishermen, have  
complained to me, so that I do hope you will  
remove all these things, I have herein re-  
ferred to, at once. -

Hamilton, Onto  
6, Aug<sup>r</sup> 1877.

Wm. Oakes  
John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Ser.

6. Aug<sup>1</sup> 1877.

I have the honor to report for your information, that on ~~Friday~~ Thursday last, in the Town of Niagara before W<sup>m</sup> Kirby Esq<sup>re</sup> J. J. - and also Mayor Pafford J. J. of the Town of Niagara - I charged John Bolton of Niagara, a fisherman there, and John Thompson of Niagara. One of the Boltons hands thus: "For polluting the waters of the Niagara River, at Niagara, the same being frequented by the several fishes named in the act" - by throwing the offal of fish, sturgeon, &c. on to Messrs Thomas Elliotts, and Thomas Moores, seine hauling fishing ground, which is in the Niagara River, and town of Niagara, on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June last, and on subsequent days, during the said month of June last, in contravention of the Fisheries Act."

After an adjourned hearing to the 2<sup>d</sup> instant, from the 1<sup>st</sup> instant, I was enabled to prove the case ag<sup>st</sup> John Bolton, the owner of the boat, from which the offal, &c. was thrown into the River, as per Section 14, and Sub Section 2, of Section of the Fisheries Act. - - -

John Thompson, pleaded guilty. - - John Bolton, was fined \$5, and \$4.85 of costs, - or 20 days in Jail. - And John Thompson, was fined \$1, and \$4.85 of costs, or 15 days in Jail. - - - Both fines, and costs were instantly paid. - - Before and since taking proceedings, in these cases, it was reported to me by anglers and others, that pickeral, were driven out of the River, by this fish offal, being thrown in, and scattered over the Niagara River, thus damaging and injuring the fisheries there. - - -

I respectfully request, and I want you in addition to the fines imposed in these cases, to write me an official letter, which I can read to all the fishermen at Niagara - marking your disapprobation of such an injurious offence, as

was in this instance committed by John Bolton, an  
old fisherman, and John Thompson, who fished for  
Bolton, getting  $\frac{1}{4}$ <sup>th</sup> of the take for his hand share. . . .

I just think of such a splendid meal, being  
made the receptacle of Sturgeon guts, and heads, &c. &c.  
It was too bad. — And with due respect,

I Have &c,

Edmund Kerr

D.O.

Hon. Ministers,

H. H. H.

Sir,

6, Aug 5<sup>th</sup> 1877,

I have the honor to receive your communication  
of 31<sup>st</sup> of July last, respecting the letter of application from Mr.  
Henry Ross, a fisherman at Port Maitland, for to fish a  
pound net, in Lake Erie, written to me as his Local Overseer,  
and which I submitted for your consideration. . . .

You commence by saying: — "which charges,  
your own communication of the 27<sup>th</sup> instant, appear  
to endorse?" —

You appear to judge me hastily, and in reply  
to your remark, my own real object was to see Mr.  
Ross, get a pound net licence. — And I have to  
acknowledge, that on perusing the letter of Mr. Ross,  
I felt it was my duty, and for the good of the fish-  
eries to send a letter of this character to the Fisheries  
dept. Ottawa. . . .

So far as I am individually referred to therein,  
the matter is too insignificant to be noticed by me, per-  
sonally, or in any other way, whatever! —

But I may refer you back, and tell you now,  
that the late John A. MacKinnon, after his appointment  
and before his death, carried on just in the same  
way as his successor Mr. Bingham. . . .

I hope you will bear in mind Mr. Baileys  
and not now ignore me altogether, deeming it expedient, be-  
cause I sent you this letter of application from Mr.  
Henry Ross. — — —





Hamilton, Ont.

My dear Sir,

6. August 1877.

I wish to complain to you of Mr. Frank Taylor, Sadler - Georgetown, and of a Mr. Gordon, of the Bank in Georgetown; - For going out to fish, and for fishing in the River Credit, at Bellefontaine, on Sunday 22<sup>d</sup> of July 1877. - Complaint was made to me at Sub Town, on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of July 1877 - When I come up again, you can try these cases; William Sinclair, is my Witness, and with due respect

Yours truly  
J of the Bank,  
Green Village,

Your Obedient Servant,

John W. Kerr

H. O. 4<sup>th</sup> Div.

My dear Paddy.

Please find your license herewith, except Isaac Durham - no person can fish in front of the Township of Grimsby - Keep a look out for me, and yourself, and brother.

Please send money soon,

Y<sup>r</sup>

Hamilton, Ont.

John W. Kerr

6. August 1877.

H. O.

Mr. Pat<sup>r</sup> Stand,

Winona, Ont.

My dear Sir,

16. August 1877,

Please find your license here-  
with; You can give the money to your brother  
for me, as soon as you make it. - I was  
obliged to give John Dollen and John Thompson  
on last Thursday, for throwing the offal of fish  
in to the Niagara River; - Bolton was going to  
complain of you all; he however thought  
better of it, I am glad you have dispensed  
with Noble Keith, and with kind regards,  
Mr John Stand,

J. H. Johnson  
D.O.

Grimaby, -

Except, Durham no true fishes in part  
of Township of Grimaby. J. H. Johnson

D.O.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August 1877.

At Port Credit, and up as far as Meadowville,  
served Mr Jas; Gooderham, and Mr John  
Simpson with Notices to build fishways in their  
Mill dams, - went out at 6. A. M., came in  
at 6. P. M. - Miles 94. My fare \$1.40, \$4 & B.  
\$2. dinner and Horse feed tolls \$1.00 - Mr  
Jas: A. Wilcox, accompanied me. - - -

Saw Mr Beattie and Mr Webb, and fixed  
the place for putting in the fishways. -

Heard that the Marber allowed the Acid  
and Dye stuffs in the River - from their  
Cloth Factory - John Wright informed me  
that in the month of Aug<sup>r</sup> 1876. He  
caught a salmon 13 inches long in Pease  
Credit, in front of lot No: 3 - 2<sup>d</sup> Con: Toronto, on  
Streetville Road - He also saw several small  
salmon in the River, during a freshet

dead - after the water went down. ~~was~~ being drifted  
on to the flats - they were dead. - and were about  
2 inches long. this was in Aug<sup>5</sup> 1876. -

Bel.

11. August 1877.

I have the honor to send you, Bank cheque  
No: 489, for the sum of thirteen dollars. - - -

Will you be pleased to apply this amount,  
for this current year, as follows: -  
No: 1. - Col: St. M. Villiers, - "For seine hauling license  
in Lake Ontario, on B. beach," already received, and  
delivered. - - -  $\begin{matrix} \$4 & 4 \\ 5.00. \end{matrix}$

2. David Tyson, B. beach, - "For license to  
fish a white fish seine in L. Ontario, in front  
of Mr John Wesley Hopkins farm, on B. Beach.  
the amount being \$5, now sent you on acct 3.00.

3. - Mr St. L. Bastien - Hamilton, - "For a license  
on Lot No: 1, on B. beach, in B. bay, on which  
to build a Boat House - in which to keep  
boats for angling purposes for this current year 5.00  
and with due respect  $\begin{matrix} 13.00 \end{matrix}$

Hon: Minister

V. V. V.

I Have the

John W. Kern

D.O.

Sir,

11. Aug<sup>th</sup> 1877.

I have the honor to apply to you for a boat license for Mrs Anne Sherburnal, B. beach, - For to fish 2000 yards of basin gill nets 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " mesh & extension measure, in Lake Ontario, off B. beach, and also 400 yards of Stewing gill nets 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " mesh extension measure, on fishing station Nos 14 and 17, - situated on B. beach. - please send me license, - 5.00.

" 2. - Mef<sup>s</sup> R. M. Wauyer, and George E. Buckett of Hamilton: - For license to fish in B. bay, in front of their property, on B. beach, containing bay frontage 314 feet, for current year. - 5.00

" 3. Mef<sup>s</sup> John Barry, and S. St. Ghent, Hamilton, - For license to fish in B. bay, in front of their property on B. beach, containing Bay frontage 400 feet, for the current year. 5.00

In reference to Nos 2, and 3, - I may inform you that these gentlemen have purchased lots on B. beach, on which they propose to build summer residences; - Between their respective lots, and the water's edge, there is one chain fishing reserve - which they are desirous of getting hold of, and on which to build Boat Houses. - I therefore most respectfully recommend that you will be pleased to grant them a license, so that they can build their boat houses & &, except to angle, they will not net fish, but I require the dept. to control this chain reserve.

I Have &amp;c

Yours, &amp;c.

John W. Law  
D.O



My dear Sir,

Yours received! I was notified of your appointment, &c. &c. by the Fisheries Department Ottawa, some time ago. ---

In a few days, I expect to take a run up to Erie Village - and will then appoint some place where you can meet me and talk over your duties in detail, and I will then feel most happy to instruct you in all things & with kind regards. -

A. Hughson Esq.

Fishery Overseer. -

Orangeville, Onto.

Yrs<sup>ly</sup> respectfully,  
John W. Kerr

S.O.

Hamilton, Onto.

11. August 1877.

Friday, 10. Aug<sup>th</sup> 1877. -

At the Heights - the Plains - Brant farm. B.  
beach - as far down as Geo. Croftworth's boat;  
St. B. Villiers - paid me \$5, his license fee. -  
John St. Davis - paid me \$3, for Dr. Lyon, -  
Good fishing on B. beach, went out at 9.  
a.m. came in at 6. p.m. Miles 30.  
44 B. 2.50 Bolls included -

Sat: 11. August 1877,

St. L. Marteen - paid license fee, for Boat  
House \$5, on B. beach. -

My dear Mr. Elliott.

You will please find enclosed, a copy of the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Ministers remarks, on the late offences committed by Bolton, and Thompson, in polluting the waters of the Niagara River, with the offals of fish; -

I wrote Jack Bolton, on the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, to remove the remains of his pig pen, logs, stones, timber, wood, &c., off the beach, between Tom Moores fish House, and his Jerry House, - please let me hear from you, if he has done it. -

You may read the Ministers remarks for the Messrs. Balls, - Cantwell, Masters, Keith, (John,) John and Charles Bolton, The Sherlocks, Sam<sup>l</sup> Proctor, George Richardson and John Thompson, - And allow Mr. Kerby and the Mayor to read it, when I come down myself, I will read the original for the fishermen on the Niagara River. -

With my best regards, to you and yours  
believe me,  
Y<sup>rs</sup> Sincerely. -

Hamilton, Onto.

John O'Kerr  
D.O.

11. Aug<sup>5</sup> 1877.

### Notice to the Niagara Fishermen.

The Niagara Fishermen, will take notice, that logs, wood, and stones, every thing, except Reels, Boats or Boat Houses, and Fish Houses, must be instantly removed from and off the beach, in front of the fisheries at Niagara; At present comprising, Messrs Elliotts, and Morris, fishing ground, between the Southern Bank, and the one Mill pond, in the Town of Niagara. &c. &c. - -

The offals of fish, must in future be instantly buried, at least two feet under ground, or <sup>be</sup> removed to the country, for manure, or disposed of, according to law. And dead fish, or offals, which may float in, on to the beach, of any of the licensed Seine hauling grounds, at Niagara - must be instantly buried as herein set forth. &c, by the licensed fishermen. - -

The greatest interest must in future be taken, and strictly observed by every fisherman in Niagara, in this matter, which is simply looking every man after his own welfare and personal interest &c. - - -

It will never do any more for to say; I put the fish guts in American Waters. - - The fishery laws must henceforth, for all time to come, be strictly observed; or the full penalty will be put in force, for to secure the due observance of the Statute. - - -

And we must also observe the rights of our American Neighbours, and never infringe on them, in any manner, by polluting their waters. -

Hamilton, Onto.

By Order. -

11<sup>th</sup> August 1877.

John W. Kerr  
J. W.

Note!!! - The gill nets shall be set, not fished on, Messrs Elliotts and Thomas Morris. - Licensed limits. \*

Sir,

13. August 1877.

I have the honor to submit for your Consideration the petition of Mr. Fred<sup>l</sup> Sanders, owner, and occupant of the late Hon: Colonel Thomas Galbott's, old Stone stand! situated at Port Galbot in the Township of Dunwich, County of Elgin: --- Praying that you will be pleased to grant him a special <sup>large</sup> License, for to fish four pound nets in Lake Erie, "Say; to extend three miles west, and three miles east, of the Galbot Creek, which is situated near Mr. Sanders property, where it enters the waters of Lake Erie", and to extend outwards from the beach, for a distance of 320. Rods, into the waters of the same? ---

I hope the department, will pardon me for recommending that the prayer of the petition be granted, at once; Mr. Sanders, being the son of a gentleman; his father, being a licensee of the fishing at Port Galbot, as far back, as the time, when the late Colonel John McQuaig, as Superintendent, granted him a license to fish there. ---

Mr. Fred<sup>l</sup> Sanders, it appears has purchased from Mr. George Waite, who had a pound Net License granted to him, by the department, all his rights and interest in the same: License, with certificate of Transfer, is herewith. --- And now in addition to this license to fish three other pounds Nets in all, at an Annual Rental of \$40. dollars, each, or \$60. dollars, for the additional three pounds, from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September next, for, and during the balance of the year 1877. and which I have much pleasure in strongly recommending may be granted to him by you. --- o.o.o.

My acquaintance with the family especially with his late brother-in-law, George MacBeth M.P. - induced him to consult, and send this



petition through me; You will please find  
Bank Cheque No. 1, herewith, for sixty dollars.

I cannot close this application, without adding  
that Mr Fred<sup>d</sup> Sanders, I believe, will prove  
an acquisition to our list of fishermen.

And with due respect

Yours sincerely,

H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I have &c,

John W. Kerr

J.O.

O.O.O., at once, so that he may com-  
mence, and drive his piles for the post. -

Y<sup>rs</sup> J. W. Kerr  
J.O.

private.

My dear Sir

I intend leaving here on next Saturday  
morning, so as to go your Toronto by the G. F. & Bruce  
Ry. by the 12.45, Accommodation to Alton, where you  
will please meet me at the station there, when the  
train arrives. - Come prepared to stay with me  
for a couple of days, and oblige

Andrew Stephenson Esq<sup>r</sup>

J.O.

Orangerille,

Y<sup>rs</sup> Sincerely

John W. Kerr J.O.

16. Aug<sup>r</sup> 1877

Sir,

13, August 1877,

I send you the names, and address of the Mill Owners, upon whom Official Notices have been served by me to build fish-ways in their respective Mill dams situated in the River Credit.

The Model, which I gave you, and the instructions thereon, will enable you, with your own sound Judgment, to discern at once, if the fishways are being built, as they should be. The Names are as follows;

1. Messrs Wm. Stoll, and John Deere. - Springfield. ---
2. Mr. Edwin Turner. - Springfield. ---
3. Messrs Wm. and Robert Barber, Streetsville. ---
4. J. K. Beattie Esq. Streetsville. ---
5. James Gooderham Esq. Streetsville. ---
6. John Simpson Esq. Meadowville. ---
7. H. J. Gooderham, Meadowvale. ---
8. Kenneth Bishop Esq. M. P. P. Churchill. ---
9. J. P. Sutton Esq. Suttonville. ---
10. Robert Noble Esq. Horowal. ---

You will please take a run round next week, bring the model, Fisheries Act, and instructions with you, and when you ascertain what progress is being made by each Mill owner, you will please report to me at once, on your return home. ---

You can if necessary read the law, explain the model, which I have already done, and urge one and all to complete the fishways as soon as possible. --- Make no promise that any part of the cost, will be paid by the Department.

James J. Wilcox Esq.

Jr. Co.

Port Credit.

I am, Sir,

Your Obt. Servant.

John W. Kerr

J. O. ---

No. 3.

If Mr John Simpson, of Meadowsdale, will clear out the small creek, that runs from the Main Branch, commencing near the Bridge, at Main Road, and that enters the Main Branch again, below his dam, - taking therefrom all driftwood, and obstructions, I will recompense him, and ask the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Minister, to dispense with his fishway altogether. -- please apprise Mr Simpson to this effect. -- Let me know after you see it, if a fishway can be built in the Map 3 Wm and Robert Barber's (Sheetville) waste gate, or if it looks any way like Mr Beattie's. -- and I'll come and see it, please warn them to keep out all dye stuffs, and acids, from the River, as frequent Complaints have been made to me on this subject. --

13. Aug<sup>5</sup> 1877.

J. H.

John W. Kent,  
D. O.

Friday, 17. August 1877.

At Dundas, examined the Paper Mill, the Glue Works, - the bottom factory dye Works - also the Gas Works, where the gas meter was run off into the Dundas Creek. - Saw that large quantities of fish were got dead therein caused by the chemicals and deadly poisons emptied therefrom. - Took down the names of the defendants, - went out at 8. A. M. Came in at 3. P. M. - Miles 24. 54. and Bungay 2.50, dinner 50, - Tolls 20. -

Sir,

13. August 1877.

I am in receipt of your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, notifying me of your appointment as Fishery Overseer, on that part of the River Credit, from Morval, north to Orangeville; and that you have been directed by the Department, to apply to me for such information as you may require from time to time, in the discharge of your duties. ---

I may here mention that I received from the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister, Ottawa, the copy of letter, sent you by the Dept<sup>y</sup> dated 20<sup>th</sup> of July last. ---

In reply to your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, I feel much pleasure in giving you now the information you ask for; In the first place it is your bounden duty to prevent saw dust, and mill rubbish, from being drifted, thrown or passed into any stream frequented by speckled trout, or any of the fishes named in the Fisheries Act; see Sub section 2. of section 14. of the Fisheries Act; You must prevent speckled trout, being caught during close season; and prevent persons fishing on Sunday; in fact, you are to enforce the Fisheries Act, in its entirety. ---

As a matter of course, your division, will include Shaw's Lakes, and all the other small lakes, mill ponds, and all Trout Creeks, and branches, feeders, forming the northern branch of the River Credit, from the Forks to Orangeville.

As you are already aware, there are numerous saw mills - Sawmills, and Woollen, and other factories, including paper mills to engross your attention. ---

It was not considered necessary, I presume, by the Dept<sup>y</sup> at Ottawa, to refer to those saw mills, &c, north of Churches Mill - at the Cataract, in their letter to you, of the 20<sup>th</sup> of July last, which you have received, as you, and I, can arrange about them. ---

But with reference to the list of mill owners which you have received, I may here state for your information, that it was deemed advisable upon



my recommendation, to have fishways constructed in the dams, on the main branch of the River Credit, say from Springfield, to the Forks; and to be constructed by the mill owners, &c. whose names you have been already furnished with. ---

I now beg to apprise you, that I have served official notices sent me by the department, on the following mill owners, and occupants, whose names I herewith send you, together with the names of the place, where each mill is situated. ---

11. James Barber, and Sons. Georgetown. ---
12. Charles Williams, and Sons, - Glen Williams. ---
13. - Alexander, and John Fraser, Glen Williams. ---
14. David Kirkwood, and David Smith, Salmonville. ---

Mrs Janet Plumes. - Salmonville. - Owner. ---

15. Messrs Staines, Brothers, Cheltenham. ---
16. Charles D. Spaulding, Boston. ---
17. Kenneth Chisholm - Esq<sup>r</sup>, M.P.; - The Forks. ---
18. George Staghson, - Bellefontaine, This is on the West Branch of the River Credit. ---

19. Castlers Mill; - Is no longer in existence. ---

20. Riversdale Mill; - On Silver Creek; I did not deem it necessary to serve Mr Algie, the Occupant.

I give you herewith, a Model of a Fishway, and it will form a part of your duty to visit the mill owners, above named, taking the Model with you, and urge them on, to construct and complete their respective fishways, as soon as possible. ---

Please refer to section 12. of the Fisheries Act, and to sub sections, 2. 3. 4. and 5. of section 12. of the Fisheries Act, for your guidance in fishways. ---

But while strongly urging the mill owners and proprietors to carry out the law, in the construction of these fishways, do not force the law, without special direction from me to you, to do so. ---

Bring the Act, with you, and read the section, and sub sections for the mill owners, when you make your visit.

You will find the scale on the model, marked  $\frac{1}{4}$ " of inch, to one foot. The length of model is 8" inches, say 32' feet long; - Within the model, fishway, the space is  $\frac{1}{4}$ " inches, say 5' feet wide. - And the sides of the model, is  $\frac{1}{4}$ " of an inch, or 1' foot on the face width. - - -

The entrance space, at the bottom, is only  $\frac{1}{4}$ " of an inch, one foot, however! as the lower end is always supposed to be in the water, and resting on the bottom of the River, this is immaterial. - - -

Then as to the four cross pieces placed securely inside the model, thus and thus, you will have to judge for yourself, as to the size and dimensions, so as to give stability to the structure. - - -

Then as to the Break Water pier, placed at the head of each fishway, You will have to see that it is substantially built, of good, strong, and durable material, and that it is placed in its proper position, and <sup>the</sup> regular distance from the head of the fishway, as per model, so that the fishes of all kinds, will always have clear water privilege, <sup>in</sup> either going up stream, or descending the stream, as the case may be. - - -

The work must be well done, and in a substantial Workmanlike manner, - of good and sound material, shall be strictly adhered to. - - -

You must not hold out any hope of any portion of the cost of Construction being paid or allowed by the Minister; Read sub section 3. of section 12. of the Fisheries Act.

When the fishways are finished, it will be your duty to see that they are always kept in an efficient and proper state of repair at all

times, thus affording an easy passage always to the fishes, in ascending or descending the stream. ---

As the work progresses, and after you make your inspection - please report to me. -

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

John W. Sten,  
Fishery Overseer.

To,

Andrew Hughson Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
Fishery Overseer,  
Orangeville. -

Postages 50<sup>¢</sup>

.0.

Saturday 18. August 1877.

At Toronto, and Orangeville, met Andrew Hughson, F.O. from Orangeville at Alton, explained to him his duties, &c. &c. went out at 8, a.m. came in at 5. p.m. saw Robert Purdy at Alton, and arranged with him about a Boat at Shaws Lake - next day - Sunday Railway fare to Toronto  $\$1$ , to Alton  $\$1.35$  + dinner 25 + tea and bed 50. Miles about 109. ---

.0.

Sunday 19. August 1877. -

At Alton, Orangeville; Islands Lake; - Shaws Lakes; Cataract; the Forks; - Bellfontaine, Irish Village - and back to Alton. - Miles about 38, - Bk + B. -  $\$2.00$  - Boat  $\$1.00$ . found Thomas Reifold, and George Alfred Juxton, fishing for, and catching speckled trout 'in' the Middle Lake, - went out at 7. a.m. came in at 10. p.m. - found Mill Rubbish in the creek, at Bishop's Mill - at the Forks - Mr. John Price, is the person who works the Mill, - Ordered the stuff, to be removed. - gave Hughson a fishway model, - and copy of instructions with it. - - - They had 34. Trout in their pots which I seized. - - - Breakfast, dinner tea and bed  $\$1.00$ .

Monday, 20, August 1877.

At Grangeville. - got out summonses from Robert McKernan Esq J. P. - for Thomas Penfold - and Geo. Alfred Linton, for fishing on Sunday, - the 19<sup>th</sup> &c. &c. - there to, and examined the mill, owned and worked by E. H. Leeson, in Baldon, went out at 6. A. M. - came in at 3. P. M. Miles about 20. Examined the Mills<sup>3</sup> Scott's Mill at Melville - all right there, and in good order. - a man named Maylie - Brick-layer - in Grangeville attempted to tamper with Hughson about the defendants. - dinner, breakfast, and tea and bed off 1. - Horse and Buggy \$2.00

Tuesday, 21, August 1877. - Telegraphs \$1.00

At Erin Village, and Alton, John Price, was summoned up, before Wm. Syles Esq J. P. for allowing mill rubbish to pass into the waters of the River Credit, requested by Juries named in the Act. The case was proved by the evidence of Andrew Hughson he was fined \$2. and 4. 60. Costs, or 20 days in jail, which he instantly paid, - went out at 5. A. M. came in at 9. 30. P. M. - Miles about 20. - Horse and B. \$2.00 Horse feed, and Board at Chisholms - Erin Village \$2.00, extras 50. -

Wednesday, 22, August 1877. -

My appointment. was at Grangeville, at 8. A. M. - Mills<sup>3</sup> Robert McKernan, and Jull Esq J. P. were in attendance to try Thomas Penfold, and Geo. Alfred Linton, for fishing on the previous Sunday - they admitted the case, and were fined \$1. each and \$2.75 Costs, or 20 days in jail, which they instantly paid. - Telegraphs \$0.75 Miles 20. - Horse & B. 2.00. Breakfast for 2, 50. dinner, tea and bed 75. - - - Inspected Leeson's mill, this morning



This afternoon Edward H. Leeson, <sup>Wm</sup> Armstrong, and Edward Prentice, were up before Emory Kennedy J. P. <sup>Alton</sup> for permitting saw dust to pass into the waters of the River Credit, in Caledon, the cases were disposed of at 2, p.m. - Prentice, and Armstrong, being employees, were let off. - with a caution - Ed: H. Leeson - the owner - was fined \$2, and \$4.60, costs of 25 days in jail, which he paid. - - Robert Puddy - served the summonses. - -

.0. Thursday, 23, August 1877. -

At Alton, River Village. J. G. Saylor, Sadler, and Arthur W. Gordon, Bank clerk, of Georgetown, appeared before <sup>Wm</sup> Syles Esq. J. P. for fishing in the River Credit, on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> July last. - <sup>Wm</sup> Syles being a Magistrate in Wellington, and the offence happening in Peel the case was dismissed - fees: Quenden the Constable however, received \$4, costs, from the defendants.

Then as regard Sub section 3. of section 18, of the Fisheries Act. - The Magistrate held, that the case could not be disposed of by him - and he promised me a statement for the Department, went out at 5, a.m. thence back to Alton, and home as far as Toronto, St and B. <sup>\$</sup> 2.00, gave Billy <sup>\$</sup> 50. - <sup>\$</sup> Breakfast, dinner tea and bed \$1.00 + Ry fare 1.35. Miles 90. Boat 10¢

.0. Friday 24, August 1877. -

At Toronto Island. found all regular. went out at 8. a.m., came in at 2.50. p.m. Miles 48. Rail- way fare <sup>\$</sup> 1.20, Cab 30¢, Breakfast & dinner <sup>\$</sup> 50.

Sir,

25. August 1877.

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> instant, declining to give Mr Fred<sup>r</sup> Sanders, a license to fish three additional Pound Webs. in Lake Erie; and instructing me, how! I am to pay back Mr Sanders the sum of \$60.-- he had paid in to the department, on account of the said Licenses. ---

Will you be pleased to send me the sum of One Hundred dollars, on account of Current expenses, during this quarter, and I will pay him immediately. --- And I can afterwards do as you direct, as I collect outstanding licenses amounting to \$20.

It is only right, and just that Mr Sanders should be paid back his money at once, and with due respect.

Am: Minister,

I Have &amp;c.

H. H. H.

John W. Kent

D.O.

Sir,

25. August 1877.

I have the honor to report, that on Sunday last, on Shaws Lake, about 12 o'clock, Noon, in the Township of Caledon, and County of Peel, I found Thos. Benfold, and George Alfred Luxton of Orangeville, in a boat, fishing for, Catching, and Killing Speckled Trout. -- They had about 3 dozen, of these fish, in their possession at the time. --

I seized, and Confiscated the fish, brought the offenders before Robert McKee and Thomas Jull Esqrs J. P.s, for the County of Peel, Orangeville, on the 22<sup>d</sup> instant; Thomas Benfold, was fined \$1. and \$2.75, costs, or 20 days in Jail, - and George Alfred Luxton, was fined \$1. and \$2.75. Costs or 20 days in Jail, which they paid. -- Offence - "Profaning the Sabbath."

Mr Andrew Hughson, the newly appointed J. C. Officer, - whom I have been instructing in his duties, during this week, and whom I had with me, when the offence was committed I made a Witness of, in the Cases, and with due respects  
Hon: Ministers

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
J. C.

H. H. H.

Sir:

25. August 1877.

I have the honor to report, for your information, that on the 21<sup>st</sup> instant, at Erin Village, County of Wellington, John Price of the Town of the Credit, in the Township of Caledon, and County of Peel, was fined \$2, and \$4.75 Costs. For allowing Mule rubbish to pass into, and remain in the waters of the River Credit, which is prohibited by the Fishes named in the Fisheries Act. - - -

I had Mr. Andrew Hughson, G. O. Granger, vice, with me, and I made him the witness in this case also, and thereby instal'd him in his duties. - and with due respect

Yours Minister,

H. H. H.

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr

D. O.

Tuesday 28. August 1877.

At Dundas - issued summonses for J. L. Stauffer, Man: Gas Works; - G. B. Snow, Man: Woollen and Cotton Factory. - J. S. Parmenter, of the Gas Works, - and John A. Fisher, and John Fisher, of the Paper Mills, Dundas, together with several witnesses. viz: Thomas MacDonough, Charles W. Bash, Robert Smith, David Morrison, Owen Clouston, James Reynolds, John and Joseph Chouey, and Henry Binkley - went out at 8.30, a.m. came in at 5. p.m. Miles 24. St. and Buggy <sup>\$7</sup> 2.50, dinner for two, 50<sup>¢</sup>, Horse feed 10<sup>¢</sup>. Tolls 19<sup>¢</sup>.



Sir,

25, August 1877,

I have the honor to report for your information, that on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> instant, at 2 o'clock p.m. in the Village of Alton in the Township of Caledon; and County of Peel; Edward D. Lesson, Saw Mill owner, of Caledon, was fined \$2, and \$4.60. Costs, for allowing saw dust to enter the waters of the North Branch of the River Credit, in Contravention of the Fisheries Act.

The Case was disposed of, by Messrs Kennedy Esq<sup>re</sup> J. P., and myself.

I made Mr. Andrew Hughson, J. Oor a Witness in the Case, having taken him with me, to inspect the Saw Mills of the locality, now in a very fair way towards obeying the law; and with due respect

Yours sincerely,

I Have &c,

H. H. H.

John W. Kern

J.O. ---

10. Wednesday, 29. August 1877,

On B. beach, examined the Beach on Station Nos 18. and 19. B. beach, Lake Ontario, about saw dust drifted in there as complained of by Mr. G. Wilby - Ocean House, - went out at 12.30 came in at 5.30. p.m. At B. 2.00. - Miles 24. -

Ms. Anne Sherburne - paid her License fee for current year \$5.00 - - -

Sir.

25, Aug<sup>th</sup>, 1877.

I have the honor to apply to you for 36, printed Notices - signed by the Commissioner - setting forth the close season for speckled trout, commencing from the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 1877, to the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May 1878. - and the forger. - - -

And I will thank you, to specify in this same public notice, the Sunday clause: That no angling or hook fishing of any kind, can be carried on in any of the waters situated in the Province of Ontario, from 6 o'clock, p.m., on every Saturday evening, until 6 o'clock, a.m. - on every following Monday morning, - and that during this close time, it shall be unlawful to fish by such means. -

Will the Law bear you out, in doing this, please read sub section 14, of section 13, of the Fisheries act.

With due respect

Hon: Minister

I Have &c.

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr

Ottawa,

J. O.

Thursday 30, Aug<sup>th</sup>, 1877, - -

At the Police Court, went out at 8.30.

a.m., came in at 4. p.m. -

J. S. Parmenter fined \$10. and Costs. - the case agt J. L. Stanford. Jao; Work adjourned until Tuesday next, went out at as above. H & B, 1.50. -

Sir,

29, August 1877,

I have the honor to send you herewith the proceedings of the Mayor and Council of the City of Hamilton, held on the 27<sup>th</sup> instant, regarding that part of Dundas Marsh, set apart for the propagation of fish, in case Mr John Stevens, of Hamilton succeeds in buying the balance from the Local Government, Toronto. The public, and the fisheries will be amply served by your enforcing for fishing purposes the contents of my letter to the department, under instructions and with plan of Fishery Reservation, dated 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 1876. - In the absence of Mr Whitehead, I hope Mr Bousset will keenly watch our fishing interests as approved of, on the occasion referred to. -

And with due respect

Hon. Ministers  
H. H. H.

Ottawa,

I Have &amp;c,

John W. Kerr

D.O.

P.S. I don't think the Mayor or Corporation of Hamilton have any legal right in the premises whatever! -

o. - Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 1877.

At Dundas, with Mr Littlehales, Manager of the Hamilton Gas Works - who went with me to inspect the place where the water was pumped into the Dundas Creek, from the large tank, in which the gas water stands. - examined the premises, thence home by the back Road from Dundas by the Heights - a young man accompanied Mr Littlehales. Cols 20, H. & B. 2.00, - Miles 20, -

My dear Sir,

30. August 1877.

As you will have already learned, by direct communication from the Fisheries department, Ottawa; I have been unsuccessful in obtaining for you the license to fish Three additional Pound nets, in Lake Erie, extending three miles east, and west of Port Talbot.

I can assure you, that I recommended you, in the strongest language for the indulgence you sought, and I sent the sixty dollars with it.

There was however, one thing to your disadvantage, Mr. Whitaker, the Commissioner, is absent at Halifax, Nova Scotia; However, don't despair of ultimate success; and I would recommend you to repeat your application again, through George Elliot Casey Esq. M. P. the worthy son of a worthy sire.

I have much pleasure in returning herewith, a post office order, for the sum of \$60, and believe, with kind regards,

Fred<sup>d</sup> Saunders Esq  
Port Talbot  
Onto.

My dear Sir,  
Yours sincerely,  
John W. Kerr  
J. W.



Sir,

31. August 1847.

I have the honor to communicate to you, that the Wellington School of Irish Village, in the Township of Irish, and County of Wellington, is most desirous that the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Minister would set apart a portion of the south west part of Lot No. 15, in the 8<sup>th</sup> Concession of the Township of Irish, containing five ponds, and about 2½ acres of land, and water; including a Irish Breeding House. -- For the natural and artificial propagation of "speckled trout" please refer to section 15, of the act.

This has become the more essential, because during the current month, about 100. speckled trout, in his large pond, have died, as is supposed from the effects of poison, placed in the water by some malicious person. -- I have much pleasure in commending Mr W<sup>d</sup> Hull, as a person deserving of your consideration in this matter. --

and with due respect,

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Minister,

H. H. H.

H. H. H.

I Have &amp;c

John W. Kerr

H.O.

Stationery 50.00  
 Postages 50.00

Sir,

In answer to my report, recommending the extension of your division, I beg now to send you the revised form of instructions, as at present fixed by the department at Ottawa. —

Examine, and make yourself personally acquainted at once, with the speckled Trout streams in Luther, Amaranth, and East Garafraxa, Saw Mills thereon, &c. &c. —

I send you 12 Notices, 6 of each kind, for posting up. — I have sent 2, to Man: Leeson, 2, to Dr. Riddell, four to Alton, 2, to Belfountain, so you need not place any of those I send you in these places. — Warn the Mill owners to keep out the saw dust, &c. and show them how to fix their mills for that purpose. — I will telegraph you, before I come up again. —

The close seasons, Sundays, and the spawning season, and Close season must be strictly observed; YB &c.

and to Hughson Esq.  
J. O.

Orangethorpe.

John W. Kerr J.O.,  
31. Augt 1877.

Mr. Kerr Esq.

Knowing little or nothing as to the laws affecting river fishing, I am notwithstanding of the opinion that about the Grand River, in this neighbourhood, things are not as they ought to be, and should this district be within your Jurisdiction, I should like very much if you could bestow a little attention upon it. --

Large quantities of rubbish are thrown into the stream, there are no fish slides on the dams, fishing for all sorts of fish is carried on without reference to times and seasons, nets are employed by various parties into which the fish are driven by beating the river. -- In connection with our Natural History Museum we desire to protect game and fish within the limits of the law. --

I shall be glad to hear from you in reference to the practices I have alluded to,

Yrs<sup>ly</sup> Respectfully,

David Boyle,

Pres; Pres; Secy  
Elora.

Rec<sup>d</sup> 4. Sep; and sub-  
mitted to the Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Minister - same day.

John W. Kerr J.O.

20.

4. September 1877.

I have the honor to submit to your information a letter from Mr David Bone, Chief, Public Works, which is on the Grand River.

As this has reference to fishing law dust, &c, and the want of fishways on the Grand River, in which speckled trout are numerous about Elora, and Fergus, I beg to send you this letter, that you may be pleased to send it to Mr Henry Griffith St. O. Poranford, in whose division this part of the Grand River is situated.

This is most essential at all times, but more particularly now as we are approaching the close season for speckled trout.

And with due respect

Yours, Sir,

H.

H.

H.

Ottawa.

I have &c

John W. Kerr

St. O.

P.S. Elora is about 60 miles from here, on the Wm. Grey and Bruce Railway.

Respectfully,

John W. Kerr

St. O.

Tuesday. 4. September 1877.

Attended the Police Court, Hamilton. Mr Thos. Littlehales, examined in the case against J. L. Stanford, gas: Works - Mr Stanford, examined himself, also Mr Thomas MacDonough. - Fined 20, and Costs. - went out at 8. a.m. came in at 4. p.m. - Miles 8. - 1.50.



Sir,

4. September 1877.

I have the honor to report that John Fisher & boy, - of the Paper Mills Dundas, which is situated on Mordans Creek, was summonsed up by me "For allowing Vitriol, Chloride of lime, and dye stuffs, to enter the waters of Mordans Creek, in Contention of the Fisheries Act?"

The case was laid over for one month, so as to give the defendant, who is Deputy Reeve of Dundas an opportunity to petition the Hon: The Minister, to exempt Mordans Creek, from the provisions of the Act, and with due respect,

Hon: Minister

H. H. H.

I Have &amp;c

John W Kerr

P.O.

Sir,

4. September 1877.

I have the honor to report, that a case I had against Mr B. B. Snow, Manager of the Dundas Cotton, and Woollen Factory - "For allowing dye stuffs, Chemicals and Acids to pass into and remain in the waters of Mordans Creek, in Contention of the Fisheries Act?" was laid over until the Hon:

The Minister is petitioned on the subject, and which I trust I will have an opportunity given me to report upon, and with due respect,

Hon: Minister

H. H. H.

I Have &amp;c

John W Kerr

P.O.

postage stamps

Friday, 7. Sep: 1877.  
 At Verona, Grimsby and B. beach, endeavouring  
 to collect fishery fees, did not receive one of,  
 went out at 7.30. a.m. came in at 4.30 p.m.  
 miles 48, at B. \$2.50, - - -

Wrote Chief of Police. - Thomas Macdonough  
 this Saturday morning - 8. Sep: 1877. -

My dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter "without  
 date", - and on the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, I forwarded the same to  
 the Fisheries department. Ottawa, - recommending that  
 immediate instructions be sent to Mr. Henry Griffith,  
 G. Overseer, - of your part of the Grand River, and who  
 is resident at Brantford, to attend instantly to what  
 you complain of. - - -

I send you a Notice showing the close season  
 for speckled trout. - - I may also mention for your inform-  
 ation, that except under licenses, &c. from the department  
 of Marine and Fisheries, - fishing by means of seines  
 and gill nets, is prohibited in all the waters of On-  
 tario. - - - "And no person can kill speckled trout, ex-  
 cept by angling with hook and line for them." -

Should you, during the approaching close season for  
 speckled trout, find out or learn that persons are  
 catching or killing these fish - please write or tele-  
 graph me, and I will take a run up myself, - and  
 attend to the matter for you. - -

And with due respect,

David Boyle Esq.

Pres. Prov. Sec.

Elora. P.O. -

Respectfully,

John Kerr

O.O.

P.S. -

8. Sep: 1877.

I thank you very sincerely for your inform-  
 ation. -

Yours truly, J. W. Kerr O.O.

Tuesday, 11. Sep: 1877,

At Dundas, Examined - Masons, Quarry - and  
saw where the line was allowed to pass into the St  
Mordans - on the 10<sup>th</sup> instant - MacDonough Chief of  
Police - was with me - went up in consequence of a  
Telegraph - I received - went out at 9. a.m. came in  
3. p.m. - Miles 20. - St & B: 2. - Tolls 16. -

Reported the Case to Jas: Lechelle Esq: J. P. and  
got on. Examinations - for William Mason, Charles Mason  
and John Mason - for permission to line from their Quarry  
to enter Mordans Creek, in contravention of  
the Fisheries Act -

Memo

Ottawa, 17. Sep: 1877,

Mr Kerr

Please procure for this de-  
partment Copies of Hamilton Times, 12 & 14. Sept.

Answer,

S. R. Bauset,

Mr Bauset,

I have mailed for the De-  
partment, Copies of the Hamilton Times, 12 and 14,  
September, and I am respectfully yfs

Hamilton, Ont

John W. Kerr

18. Sep: 1877.

S. R.

Telegraph 25.15  
at 15.15

Sept.

4. September 1877.

I have the honor to report, that on the 30<sup>th</sup>, day of August, before James Cahill Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. of Hamilton, Mr J. S. Parmenter, Glue Manufacturer of Dundas - was prosecuted by me - "for allowing lime to enter Mordans Creek, from his premises, the same being in contravention of the Fisheries Act."

Accompanied by Chief Con: McDonough, in consequence of reports I received, I examined Mr Parmenter's premises on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August last, when I found two underground wooden pipes, with lime running therefrom into the waters of this Creek. - -

Also the lime overflowed a large pool or reservoir, where it was being kept, and run into the waters of the Creek. - - -

Mr Parmenter, was fined ten dollars, and costs, or ten days in Jail. - The case however, is laid over until the 1<sup>st</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>. The Minister is petitioned to exempt the Creek, as in the case of J. L. Standford, of the Dundas Gas Works.

And with due respect,

Hon<sup>r</sup>. Minister,

H. H. H.

I Have &c

John W. Kerr.

D.O.



Sir,

4, September 1877.

I have the honor to report, that on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of August last, in consequence of receiving a postal card, from Chief Constable, Thomas J. Donaghy, of Dundas; thus! "There is a matter here, that requires your immediate attention, in connection with the Fisheries." -- I went there, and I found, that on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of August, Mr. J. L. Stanford, Manager of the Dundas Gas Works - had placed down from the Gasometer Tank, to a small Creek running into Mordous Creek, which runs into the Esplanade Canal and B. Bay, a two inch iron pipe, in diameter, through which by the aid of a Steam pump; several thousand gallons of the poisonous and deleterious water, containing ammonia, and other deadly substances, was pumped into the waters of the same, which is frequented by several of the kinds of fishes named in the Act, as is alleged being in contravention of the Fisheries Act.

I made a careful examination of this matter, when I ascertained, that not only fish, in large numbers, but some ducks, were killed from the effects of this deadly poison; - The pipe laid down was about 120 yards long, and was raised over the street, to where the water discharged from it, near the Creek into which it ran rapidly, the grass for about four yards square was burned black. -- I was obliged to subpoena ten Witnesses, to prove this case, which came up before James Cahill Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. Police Magistrate Hamilton, on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August last, and then adjourned until this day. --

In the mean time I had Mr. Thomas Littlehales, the intelligent Manager of the Hamilton Gas Works, to accompany me to

Dundas, on Saturday last, examine the gas premises there, and had the benefit of his able testimony to-day; Mr. J. L. Stanford, the Manager from Dundas, and the defendant in this case was put forward by his counsel, Mr. Brown, and examined in his own behalf, but he admitted <sup>in his evidence</sup> the poisonous nature of the water pumped from the old Tank, into the waters of Mordans Creek; -- I had to pay witness fees, five dollars, -- and I employed Mr. A. R. Waddell, Solicitor here to prosecute the case, and examine and X examine the witnesses, hence my success in a measure of obtaining a fine of Twenty dollars, and Costs against J. L. Stanford, or 20 days in Jail; --

My attention was also drawn to this matter, by Mr. Henry Binkley, deputy of Reeve of Newcastle.

In consequence of a resolution passed by the Mayor, and Town Council of Dundas; for to petition the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Minister, to exempt Mordans Crk from the provisions of the Act; The Magistrate gives the defendant one month to do so, during which nothing will be further done to enforce the fine and Costs. --

And with due respect,

Hon: Minister,

I Have &c

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr,

P.S. --

D.O. --

I will pay Mr. Waddell for 1/2 the fine, which the Prosecutor is entitled to, also Mr. Littlehale,

Yrs &c

J. W. Kerr. D.O.

Sir: —

4, September 1877,

I have the honor to apply to you, for a  
Blank Letter Book, of about 450 pages. —

— Say 14 inches long, 9 inches wide, and  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches  
deep; of good foolscap paper, — Index'd, and  
about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch margin, marked by red double  
line, and with due respect —

Yours Minister

I Have & —

Yours &c

D.O.

P.S. — And will you please send me a Common  
Memorandum book.

Yours &c

D.O.

My dear Sir: —

As I am getting in all the License fees  
for the year, Will you please send me on receipt  
ten dollars, five still due by you, and five for your  
friend at Oakville. —

I may say to you Dick, that I have had  
to send off 60, lately to Ottawa, of Outstanding li-  
cense fees. And with kind regards. —

Yours Sincerely. —

Yours &c

D.O.

Mr Richard Gilbert

Minister

Jordan

9<sup>th</sup> September 1877.

My dear Moon, -

What news? - Any thing at all about fishing; please write and let me know, how things are going on. - Have you got me a Young sheep dog, such as you promised me once. -

Any news, fresh about Salmon? -

How is the Dutchman getting on, I will be down shortly. -

What about Frenchman's bay, and Shoal point; I was told during the summer, that thousands of Young White fish, were hauled in by fishermen at Shoal point, and left to rot on the beach - with my kind respects,

Yrs Sincerely,

John W. W.

Joseph Moon Esq<sup>r</sup>,

Port Union.

P. O. - 20, Sep: 1877.

Sir, -

1<sup>st</sup> Oct. 1877.

Application has been repeatedly made to me during the past 10 days by Irish dealers, regarding the sale of Detroit River Caught White fish, represented as being permitted by the Fisheries department, to be caught, sold, bought and possessed during the close season for White fish, the approaching fall. -

Will you be pleased to furnish me for the information of the dealers and the public, with copies of the Regulations in Council in this matter, for the guidance of the dealers and the public. -

With reference to the above, I beg to recommend, and hope you will be pleased to grant similar permission to the Niagara fishermen, who are similarly situated as the Detroit River fishermen are. - To be granted



My dear Wilcox, -

Anything startling, what is being done about, and at the fishways. - It is necessary you should stir them up, is any person fishing in, or near the Credit, or as above, and Mr. Reid given up fishing for this season. -

It is only two days ago, that I was told, by a gentleman, that the Messrs. Barbers, allow the Dye stuffs &c. to go into the waters of the Credit in such quantities as to discolor the water and make it black, I may tell you, that no fish can live after a stream is polluted with such deadly poison. -

Composed as it is of Copras, Cresote, Sulphuric acid, lime and Chlorate of lime, and dye stuffs, stop it, and warn these gentlemen of the consequences.

Hamilton,

21. Sep: 1877.

Yrs. &c.

John W. Kerr

D.O.

in the Township of Niagara only. -

And with due respect

Hon: Minister

I have &c.

John W. Kerr

D.O.

Sir,

1<sup>st</sup> Oct. 1877,

With reference to my application for to you, of the 4<sup>th</sup> of September last, for a letter Book; please send me the same at once, and oblige.

I have &c.

John W. Kerr

Hon: Minister.

Sir,

15. Sep: 1877.

I am just in receipt of a telegraph, thus! -

Ottawa, Sep: 15. 1877. -

Jno W: Kerr } Stated you are prosecuting  
Fishing Querees } Mason, Dundas Creek, report  
 facts immediately by letter, mean while stay  
 proceedings?" S. N. Bauset.

In obedience to this Telegraph, I beg to re-  
 port that on the morning of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, on re-  
 ceiving a telegraph thus! Dundas, 10<sup>th</sup> Sep: 1877.

W. Kerr. } Come up immediately if possible,  
 J. Bauset. } J. McDonough  
 Chief Constable,

I proceeded to Dundas, and was there  
 informed by this Officer of that Town, that on the  
 preceding day, 10<sup>th</sup> instant, Mr Charles Morson, a resi-  
 dent of Dundas, came to him, and reported that the  
 men Mr Mason, and two boys - Cannery, were then run-  
 ning line 1½ ft wide, extensively into the Creek, ruin-  
 ing the fish. &c, and polluting the stream, Mordy Ch.  
 and he must see Dr McDonough, M. P. M. - and stop  
 it immediately; - McDonough, and Morson, went  
 down and examined the place, and saw the offence  
 being then committed, described to me as being ex-  
 tensive, and a flagrant act, for which no excuse  
 can be given. - After which Morson and the Chief  
 telegraphed me; - When I inspected the Creek, on  
 the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, I found the line all over the stream  
 in the bottom of the small Creek, running from  
 Mason Cannery into Mordas Creek, into which  
 it empties. - It was a glaring case, and on my  
 reporting and consulting Jas: Cahill Esq<sup>r</sup> P. M. Esq<sup>r</sup>,  
 we came to the conclusion to bring up Mr  
 Mason and two boys - They disregarding your  
 authority and indulgence. - Please see copy,

of your letter 11<sup>th</sup> October, attached, and refer to my report of 14<sup>th</sup> instant. . . .

No further action shall be taken by me, until I receive your special orders. The Mills<sup>3</sup> seasons, having a large lot, at their Sawmery, can dig a pit there, and by the aid of a wooden pipe run this deleterious stuff into it, at very little cost, from where it can be carted away for manure, and the blood and other washings from the hides, less injurious can be run off in there in the same simple manner - Just do as Levery has done. . . .

The Desjardins Canal, as a navigable stream, protected by special act, - from Dundas to B. bay, is Goddard Creek proper, - and abounding with fish which I always take into acct, in connection with these contraventions of the Fisheries Act, and the facts, as telegraphed for. . . .

And with due respect,

Yours, Minister

I Have the

H. H. H.

John W. Kerr

T.O.

My dear Sir,

I received a Communication from the Fisheries department, on Saturday last - that Mr. W. J. Stull, of Erin Village, had been appointed F.O. for those parts of the Rivers Credit and Speed, with their Tributaries, flowing through the Townships of Bromosa, Erin, Caledon and Esquimaux.

If I can get up, you may expect me some day next week, and with my kind respects. . . .

Yours Sincerely,

John W. Kerr

T.O.

Hamilton, Onto

17. Sep: 1877.

And Mr. Hughson Esq.  
J. Oversee.

Orangeville P.O.

Sir,

31. August 1877.

I have the honor to receive your circular - wishing me to report upon what I deem as the most suitable close season for White fish and Salmon Trout, - and my reasons for doing so. - - -

In reply, I beg most respectfully to report, that I consider the Old law, from the 19<sup>th</sup> of November to the 1<sup>st</sup> of December, in each year, the best law that was ever in existence, provided it is strictly observed - for the protection of White fish, during spawning season. - - - The Trout close season might be made a week earlier. - -

But as it necessary to place White fish, and Salmon Trout close season together. - - I would recommend that it be placed from the 10<sup>th</sup> of November, to the 30<sup>th</sup> of November, this year, both days inclusive. - - -

The full of the moon this year, in November, will be on Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of November, when the great rush in the spawning, always regulated by the full moon, for the spawning of these fish will take place. - -

The present law from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of November, is the best ever made for the fishermen; They laugh, and enjoy it very much! - - It is no protection whatever, for White fish. - -

My fishermen do not care, to catch White fish, when they are spawning.

And with due respect,

Yours Minister,

J. H. H.

I have the,

John Wilson,

S. O.



Sir,

14, September 1877,

I have the honor to receive your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, with copies of enclosures from the Mayor, and Municipal Council, of the Town of Dundas, and other influential parties, praying that Mordens Creek, Dundas, be exempted from the operation of the Fisheries Act; in so far as relates to placing into the water substances alleged to be injurious to fish, - With your instructions to me to report thereon? -

In doing so, I will be as brief and explicit, as possible; and in reply I beg to report, that on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of August last, Mr J. L. Stanford, Manager of the Dundas Gas Light Company and staff, pumped out from the Gas Tank there about                      gallons of Gas Water  $H_2$ , into Mordens Creek; and from the long period of time, four years that elapsed before this Tank was cleaned out, its contents was still the more poisonous. - - - The result was, that great quantities of dead fish were soon after found in the Desjardins canal, and N. bay, into which this Creek empties itself. -

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of August, I received information, that this deadly poisonous stuff, composed of ammonia,  $H_2$  had killed the fish in great numbers, and I also had a Telegram from the Chief of Police, Dundas, requesting my immediate attendance up in Dundas in connection with the Fisheries. - -

I went there on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August, as already reported to you, by me, and I found that the report about this Dundas Gas Light Company was strictly true as reported to me. - - - Gas pipes 2 inches in diameter for a distance of about 120 yards were laid down on the streets connecting with the Gas Tank, and for 2 days and nights, a steam pump was continually employed in pumping this poisonous matter into Mordens Creek, thereby killing fish in great

numbers, all the way down the canal from Dundas to B. bay, which is about 2 miles long. -- This abound with bass, various kinds, pike, sunfish, and eels at all times, and Sterring's during November, each year, and Sterring Jay, up to a certain stage all the time. --

This Ammonia altho a great fertilizer if used in moderation, destroys vegetable and animal life when pumped out as in this case immoderately, and indiscriminately. -- The grass was burned up, tame ducks were killed, and fish were killed in great quantities from its effects, so many and in numbers, as to attract public attention, and these dead fish were not only to be seen in Dundas p. creek, and the Desjardins canal - but they were seen floating in the waters of B. bay. ---

Mr Latcham, councillor - chairman of Streets in Dundas, gave permission to lay down the pipes on the streets, but he gave no permission to pump this poisonous <sup>matter</sup> into the waters of Mordens Creek. ---

The petitioners! Besides Messrs Browning, Main, and McMahon's letters while praying and entreating that all these poisonous matters be allowed to go scot-free, into Mordens Creek. --

That is sulphuric acid, Copras, Cressete, dye stuffs, and other deleterious substances, from the bottom, and Woolen factory, - Ammonia, &c, from the Gas Works, Lime from Cementers, glue Works; - and sulphuric acid, lime, Chlorate of lime, dye stuffs, &c, from the Paper mill - be exempt from the provision of sub Section 2, of Section 14, of the Fisheries Act, except so far as relates to saw dust, and mill rubbish "less injurious substances" - and a thing which is not to be found within the limits of the Town of Dundas - on Mordens Creek. ---

When Mr Browning was arguing his case

For Mr. J. L. Stanford, he asserted, that Messrs. Laurie and Mason of Dundas Tannery, who were fined last year, were now exempt from sub section 2, of Section 14, of the Fisheries Act. - I put him however right in this matter. - Your letter to me of the 11<sup>th</sup> of October last on the subject, reads thus: 'That if they shall do their utmost in future to prevent any further injury, the fines imposed will not be levied, and no other proceedings against them, will take place under the Authority of this Department?' -

Now while Mr. Lowry, has complied with the law, thus far, and done his utmost, Mr. Wm. Mason & Co., have been doing the reverse, under Mr. Beques advice; and on the 10<sup>th</sup> of this month, they allowed large quantities of lime to flow from their Tannery in Dundas into Glendens Creek, which not only whitened the running water, but also the bottom of the Creek itself, and in one place the lime was 8 inches deep, when I examined the Small Creek, at this Tannery, on the 11<sup>th</sup> instant. -

And now, I may tell you, that Mr. James S. Varmenter, can sell his lime, to any farmer, - for manure and get rid of it in this way, or he can put it out on some vacant lot, near his own place on the Commons, instead of running it, into the Creek. -

Mr. John Fisher, of the Paper Mills - can establish some better means, whereby evaporation would take place - thereby destroying the deadly properties of these deleterious substances he uses in making paper, - after boiling straw in lime water and converting straw and rags into pulp. -

And now with regard to the bottom Factory dye stuff, &c, it is just as easy, for Mr. C. B. Brown, the Manager, to destroy the deleterious effects

of the dye stuffs, acids creosote, &c. &c, as it is not to do it, — and he has the means within his grasp, to do this at once, by damming the small stream below the dye House, into which it now runs, and therein evaporate it. . . .

With respect to the Gas Works, I presume a similar offence may not happen again for 20 years, but a large pit should have been dug, in some of the vacant lots adjacent to the Gas Works, in the right place, and before so much harm was done, where the water should have been pumped into, from the Gas Tank, — and be left there to evaporate, and had this been done, no death, nor destruction to fishes, or ducks, or vegetation, would have happened. . . .

Altho' I am to all intents and purposes the Prosecutor, I am not the Original complainant, and so far as I am individually concerned — the portion of the fine, to which I am entitled as prosecutor may be disposed of by the Stn<sup>d</sup>; the Minister, just as he may think fit, I am only interested in these cases, so far as the future protection of the fish is concerned, and never in a pecuniary way; — still, I wish to say; That for the greater part of 2 days, every effort was made by Mr Browning, Sol<sup>r</sup> for the Gas Works — to frustrate the Fisheries Act. — Witness fees had to be paid by me, to the employees of the Gas Works, also liable to prosecution, before they were allowed by him to give evidence, and Constables fees are still due in the present, and Mrs Lawry, and Masons Cases of last year. . . .

And I had to employ Mr R. R. Waddell, Sol<sup>r</sup> in behalf of the prosecution. . . .

It is alleged in Mr Browning's letter that no fishing business is carried on in



Dundas, and no part of the population subsist by fishing."

"True! I admit this, but it must be still borne in mind, that these poisonous substances have been indiscriminately run into, Mordens Creek, which enters the Desjardins Canal Dundas Marsh, and B. bay - the latter within 2 miles from where these offences complained of, proved and admitted have been committed, with running water flowing all the time from Dundas to B. Bay. - - - And so long, as Dundas Marsh, the Desjardins Canal, with Mordens Creek, are connected, and are abounding with fish for the good of the public and people at large, I had no other alternative, but to act in these cases, and I done so in a becoming manner, and as I have done, on consulting with Mr. Cahill, the Police Magistrate here. - - -

There is the spearing licensed fishermen, James and many Dundas people, and around Dundas Marsh, and the gill net fishermen and anglers nevertheless, and the great Hamilton and surrounding country - people the public, whose interests in these fisheries, I will not ignore in this report, and which must be respected and guarded by me. - - -

"These Dundas people, the defendants, have no real grievances to complain of. I have treated them in every respect with kindness, and they have never yet paid one of cent for the offences they have been committing. - - The public would have taken hold of the cases, if I had not done so. - -

I cannot separate Mordens Creek, from Desjardins Canal, Dundas Marsh and B. bay, - I cannot give Inglehart & Co. - Hamilton - for allowing Coal Oil, &c, to pass into Sherburne Inlet which enters into B. bay) and destroys and kills

fish - and allow all these Dundas people, who have done the same thing to a greater extent, with more deadly and poisonous substances to escape. - Knowing as I do, that they can prevent it, if they try. - -

please refer to your letter to the Mayor of Dundas, R. McKechnie Esq<sup>r</sup>, dated 13. April 1874. - in connection with Dundas Marsh and fisheries. - - -

I finally with above facts submit this matter for your own decision, having no friends at all to bring under your special notice, but endeavouring to do my duty as between man and man and the public at large, fairly, and above board, -

And with my profound respect,  
Hon: Ministers, I have the,  
Y. Y. Y. John W. Kerr  
J. O.

- 50

Tuesday, 18. Sep: 1877.

On B. beach, examined, and enquired about matters in connection with the fisheries - size of Herring gill nets. - went out at 8.30. a.m. came in at 5. p.m. - Miles 30. - H & Buggy - <sup># 4.</sup> 2.00  
dinner for self and son 1.00. -

In compliance with the representations of Mr. McGregor, member for Essex, the local fishery officers have been instructed not to enforce the "close" time for whitefish in Detroit river during the present season. The precautions taken to encourage propagation of fish in this river are unavailing, owing to the American authorities refusing to co-operate in the matter, hence allowing their fishermen to operate during the close season, while Canadian fishermen were restrained. The fishermen of both countries will now be on an equal footing.

My dear Sir,

On Saturday, I received from the Hon<sup>ble</sup> The Minister, a letter informing me that you have been appointed Fishery Officer, for those parts of the River Credit and Speed, with their tributaries flowing through the Townships of Eramosa, Erin, Caledon, and Esquimaux. --

Please govern yourself accordingly. --

I will try and run up next week, so keep cool, and lay low, as usual.

Wm. Hull Esq.  
F. O. Officer.  
Erin Village  
Onto.

Yrs. Gratefully,  
John W. Kerr

F. O.

16<sup>th</sup> Sep: 1877.

Sir,

19. September 1877.

I have the honor to submit for your consideration, a letter which I have just received from Mr. Lewis Smith, Trader of Owen Sound, but at present as it appears, following that business, and licensed fisherman amongst the Indians of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, at Siskiwitau. -- It appears from this letter, that other Traders, most likely Americans; are interfering with Mr. Smith, and are causing discontent amongst the Indians, to his prejudice and the fisheries, whom he has employed and paid before hand if his letter is correct, to fish for him under a license from the Department. --

Mr. Lewis Smith, is the Owner of the Schooner Nestle, of Owen Sound - whom I fined, under your Orders there, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December 1875, for Contamination of the Fisheries Act, committed during close season for white fish, &c. and who in this respect, then carried things with a high hand: - Please refer to my report of 17<sup>th</sup> Jan.

of December 1875;— and subsequent letters and reports,—

I am glad to find Mr Smith, applying now to the department, whom he disregarded then, for protection, and that he is also willing to assist any person whom you may appoint to go up there and enforce the law. —

I recommend this case for your consideration;— Mr Smith no doubt, if assisted in this case will become a warm friend and supporter of the Fisheries and the department.

It appears that to the waiting man, all things come? — With due respect

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

I Have &c,

The Minister of  
Marine and Fisheries,  
Ottawa.

John W. Kerr  
Fishery Officer. —

Wednesday, 26. Sept: 1877,

at S. Bridge, Queenston, and Niagara —  
to enquire about young white fish caught illegally in L. Ontario by licensed fishermen, went out at 8. A. M. came in at 7. P. M. Miles 64 — By fare 7 1.25<sup>00</sup>, dinner tea and bed 7 5, 844 B. 2.00<sup>00</sup>. —

Thursday 27. Sep: 1877.

at Niagara. investigating the above, found out that the 2 Molloy, and 2 Ball caught the young wh. fish. and that Fred Patterson and Billy Mathews bought and sold them, saw Wm Kelly J. P. and having talked over the matter, made complaint ag<sup>t</sup> the said persons — Breakfast dinner tea and bed 7 1. — up early reconstructing, nothing particular.



Sir,

21, September 1877.

I have the honor to report that I have just received a letter from a fisherman in Niagara ---

Thus! copy ---

Private and Confidential.--

John W. Kerr Esq<sup>r</sup>

Niagara, September 1877.

"I want to let you know, the Se-  
cilege, that there is carried on here on Small White  
fish, the size of Sterring.-- White fish 100, 200, and 300,  
at a time" ---

"I could do the same, but I would not. The  
sooner you put a stop to it, the better, come at  
once and stop it." ---

I have sent, warned and stopped these  
fishermen, but I want to fine them every one, for  
having Small or young White fish in their pos-  
session, and for selling them in Contravention of  
the Fisheries Act, and your instructions, and sub sec-  
tion 9. of section 13. Fisheries Act. ---

Their plea will be, they caught them in  
American Waters. --- The Small White fish, however,  
are all landed, as I understand and sold, and  
the gill nets are hauled up and dried in the  
Town of Niagara, from which they start out, and  
the fishing is carried on. ---

I want <sup>now</sup> you to stop this, for all time  
to come, and so desire to justify myself with  
your more experienced advice, before I bring  
them up for trial. --- please answer by return  
mail; and with due respect

Hon: Minister.

H. H. H.

I Have &c.

John W. Kerr  
J. O.

Friday 28. Sep: 1877.

0. The Cases of 5 John Bolton, Charles Bolton, Charles Bull, and Albert Bull, came up before Wm Kerby Esq. J. P. at 2. p.m. — they gave a statement about the offence committed; to be sent the department, breakfast dinner tea and laid off 1. —

Saturday 29. Sep: 1877.

0. Before Magistrate at 8 o'clock a.m., Billy Mathews present, — Ned Patterson absent, thence home — went out at 10. a.m. came in at 4. p.m., miles about 62, stage 50 of Ry fare off 1.25. — Breakfast and dinner 65. —

Ser:

29. Sep: 1877.

I have the honor to report for your information that I had Messrs Edward Patterson, and Wm Mathews Fish Dealers of Niagara, up before Wm Kerby Esq. J. P. for buying and selling young White fish, illegally caught in Ontario on the 20<sup>th</sup> of Sep: by the Messrs John and Charles Bolton and Charles and Albert Bull. —

They admitted the offence but no decision was given leaving the matter for your adjudication as per report made by me, for your decision for catching the same.

The Kerby the Magistrate will also write you on this matter.

I Have &c

Hon: Minister

Jo in Wm Kerby  
J. P.

Sir,

29. Sep: 1877.

I have just received your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> inst, ordering me to suspend all further steps and proceedings against certain parties in the Town of Dundas - for allowing refuse from their factories to run into Mordens Creek. -

In reply, I beg to state that your order, will be strictly obeyed on my part. -

It is published in the press, I have been told, I did not see it, that the Creek referred to has been stopped by the department. - And to this, if it is so, I will raise no further objection. -

But as the Fisheries department, over the name of W. F. Whitcher, Commissioners of Fisheries, have held out inducements to all well disposed persons to afford the Local Fishery Officers assistance and information; - And that Complainants will receive one half of the fines imposed, and be paid for their costs, and attendance as Witnesses, I feel it to my duty to state that not only these people, but Mr James Cahill Police Magistrate, who tried these cases is entitled to pay for his and their services. -

I am led to believe that so soon as the Fisheries department abandon and attempt such places; others will take it up.

I have &c.

Hon: Ministers,  
Y. Y. Y.

John W. Kerr  
D.O.

29. Sep. 1877.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> of August last, advising me that Mr Kerby Esq<sup>r</sup> J. P. - of Niagara, had remitted to the Dep<sup>t</sup> a sum of \$6. fines imposed upon Bolton, and Thompson, for throwing fish offal into the Niagara River, as per my report of the 6<sup>th</sup> day of August last. - - -

In reply, I beg to apprise you, that in doing this, Mr Kerby, J. P., made a mistake, he having paid the Complainant three dollars, of the fines at Niagara; he should have sent the Department, only three dollars, instead of \$6. dollars. - - -

As Mr Kerby is now aware of his error, by receiving your authority, I will give him back three dollars. -

I have &amp;c,

Yours faithfully,

John W. Kent  
N.O.

	Telegraphs	75.	
Stationery	75.		
do	40.	Postage stamps	43.
		per	25.



Sir,

1<sup>st</sup> October 1877.

I have the honor to apply to you, for permission to engage Guardians for the Salmon Ck in my division, during the approaching close season, and spawning time. . . .

I purpose visiting and inspecting the Salmon Creeks, during next week, and will then ascertain and let you know the names of the Creeks, that I deem necessary the Guardians be engaged to watch and protect. . . .

From the very low state of the water in Miland Creek, and Lyons Creek, this season I do not believe it will be necessary to place Guardians to protect them this fall. -

However! if after I make my inspection of these Creeks, I find it necessary that Guardians should be engaged for them, I will report to you. And with due respect,

Hon: Minister,

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr  
J.O.

Sir,

1<sup>st</sup> October 1877.

In obedience to your order, I beg most respectfully to remind you, to have published in the Hamilton Times, and Dundas Banner - an Official Notice, in accordance with that issued by the Fisheries department - Ottawa - last season - respecting the Herring Spearfishing this season in Burlington Bay - and Dundas Marsh. -

Hon: Minister,

I Have &amp;c.

John W. Kerr

J.O.

## BURLINGTON BAY FISHERY.

### Meeting of Interested Parties.

In pursuance of an extensively circulated handbill calling "a meeting of all parties resident in the vicinity of Burlington Bay and adjacent waters interested in the preservation of the said fishery," such gathering took place yesterday afternoon at the hall connected with Mr. Anderson's Fox and Hounds Temperance House, Burlington Heights. The attendance was large and respectable.

Thomas Bain, Esq., M. P., Dr. McMahon, M. P. P., and some thirty or forty others were present.

The meeting unanimously chose Mr. Chipman Cummins chairman, and Mr. David Bickell consented to perform the duties of secretary.

The CHAIRMAN made a few introductory remarks with respect to the object of the meeting, which he said was known to all present, therefore he would not detain them but at once proceed to business. He called upon the Secretary to read the minutes of previous meeting held in Dundas, at which a resolution was passed to the effect "That no gill nets or seines should be used in Burlington Bay."

Dr. McMAHON, M. P. P. was then called upon to address the meeting. He said that he was not a member of the Dominion Parliament, where the Fishery regulations were framed, but he had given this matter of the way in which they were administered on Burlington Bay and adjacent waters a little consideration, and failed to see that justice had been done to those residing on the north side of the Bay, all of whom had been deprived from taking fish, while those on the southeast were extended the privilege. The subject had been brought to his attention by Mr. Wm. Hopkins, and he (the speaker) had put him in the way of having returns brought down through Mr. Bain, M. P., in the Dominion House. These had been printed. In his opinion, those having such grievances should lay them before the Minister of Marine and Fisheries and have them redressed. Mr. Bain, he was pleased to say, would be in the Hall in a few minutes, and then they could obtain more information on the matter than he (the Doctor) could possibly give them. He regretted the absence of Mr. Kerr, and proceeded to remark that it certainly was an unfortunate circumstance that a person holding the position he held as Inspector of Fisheries should occupy the Deputy-Reeve's chair in any municipality contiguous to where his duty in the former capacity called him. Mr. Kerr held a municipal position in Barton township, and this circumstance gave an opportunity to those residing elsewhere to suspect that favoritism might be shown with regard to fishing privileges. He thought that resolutions should be drawn up and forwarded to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, properly setting forth what they complain of, and the redress sought for. The doctor's remarks were applauded.

Mr. BAIN, M. P., having arrived, next spoke. He confessed that he was not a fisherman; the only time he had ever attempted it was in company with two others one Queen's birthday some time ago, and between them they managed to land three fish—these were not more than two inches in length. (Laughter.) He thought the matter deserved consideration on the part of the authorities. When he was asking for the return of correspondence to be brought down in the House (which since had been published in the Times), he was not aware of the difficulties which residents on the north side were suffering under, otherwise he would have asked for a return of the answers to the Department as well. They wanted fair play, and although he had nothing to charge the present Fishery overseer with, still he thought that the Department never intended some of the regulations to be construed as they had been in this quarter. At present the Bay was practically a preserve for those on the south-east side, who were allowed to sweep out the fish with nets and seines, while those on the north shore were deprived of all such rights, and the sport of angling was destroyed. He would use all his influence to have the proper authorities place those on this side the Bay and Dundas Marsh on the same footing as residents on the other shore. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Wm. HOPKINS pointed out some of the difficulties which they had to contend with, so long as nets were allowed to be used in the Bay, just so long would they on the north side have to be content with an occasional catfish, dogfish or mullet. Mr. H. condemned the action of the overseer in no unmeasured terms.

Mr. SIMON STIPE, of Barton, defended Mr. Kerr, and remarked that the business way to go about a redress of their grievances was to apply to the Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

Mr. BAIN asked how it was that gill-net fishing had been allowed by the Department on the south side and not on the north, or any other place in the Bay, or adjacent waters? He (Mr. B.) did not know Mr. Kerr in this matter at all, but wanted to see justice done.

Mr. STIPE replied that he believed the Hon. Commissioner of Marine and Fisheries would defend the Fishery Inspector in his action.

Mr. JOHN BLAINE said that he had asked Mr. Kerr the reason those on the south were granted the privileges they enjoyed, and he (Mr. Kerr) told him that it was because those in the south were a poor lot of people who had nets, and when these were worn out there would be an end of it.

It was then moved Mr. CLINE, seconded by Mr. L. MILLS, That this meeting is of opinion that no nets or seines should be drawn inside of Burlington Bay or Dundas Marsh, nor within one-quarter of a mile of the entrance to the Burlington Canal, and that the Chairman be authorized to memorialize the Government to have the Fishing regulations so amended.

The mover and seconder spoke to the resolution, the latter referring to the inconsistency of the Fishery Overseer in his action towards the people. One time Mr. Kerr gave them leave to destroy the pike, other times he refused to let them take one.

After some further conversation, the resolution was adopted.

It was then moved by Mr. WILLIAM HOPKINS, seconded by Mr. JOHN BLAINE, that a memorial be prepared and forwarded to the Hon. the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (through Thomas Bain, Esq., M. P.) setting forth the injustice of the present fishery laws and enactments so far as the Burlington Bay and adjacent waters are concerned, and that the same may be amended so as to render justice to all parties. That this meeting nominate the following gentlemen to compose said Committee: Messrs. William Hopkins, Dr. McMahon, Henry Binkley, David Bickell and Joseph Cline.

It was arranged that this Committee will meet at Bamberger's Half-way House some evening shortly. Carried.

The meeting then shortly after six o'clock, dispersed, after votes of thanks to the members of Parliament, the Chairman and the Secretary.

## THE BAY FISHERIES.

The case as put by the complainants last night at the meeting anent the fishery regulations in the Bay, seem reasonable enough in the absence of any defence whatever. The parties who consider themselves aggrieved reside on the north shore of the Bay, and complain that they are deprived of the privileges of taking fish, while those living on the south side are permitted to catch whatever their nets may bring forth. If the question is looked at merely from a sectional standpoint, it does seem that the former are being unjustly treated. The Inspector, we believe, has a defence to offer, viz.: that those to whom permission is granted are fishermen who follow their calling as a means of livelihood, while those along the north shore, being well to do farmers, are in nowise dependent upon the products of the Bay. We may be doing the Inspector an injustice in putting this forward, as it may not be his complete case, but we think that officer might have attended the meeting to which he was invited, and given explanations that might have modified the feeling. The Department at Ottawa, as a matter of necessity, must guide its conduct chiefly upon the advice of the local officer here. He may have excellent grounds for advising a course contrary to the general opinion of the people, for the Bay has to some degree been set apart as a preserve, but it certainly would not be derogatory from his dignity and duty were he to tell the interested public what those grounds are. If it is the wish of the Department that the present condition of the piscatorial wealth of the Bay should be improved, we are sure no one would more readily observe the necessary regulations than the good people about its shores, but the impression is that it is full of fish and that those who want to catch them should be permitted to do so, unless good reasons to the contrary can be shown. The objections raised last evening to Mr. Kerr's being a member of the Barton Council were scarcely pertinent to the question before the meeting, but that official will observe the suspicion to which he is made amenable, groundless as it doubtless is.



## BURLINGTON BAY FISHERY.

A large and influential meeting of parties interested in the preservation of the above fishery was held at the Heights on Thursday afternoon last, at which Mr. Shipman Cummins presided as Chairman and Mr. David Bickell acted as Secretary. Speeches were delivered by Dr. McMahon, M. P. P., Thomas Bain, Esq., M. P., and Messrs. Hopkins, Stype, Blaine and others, but as the meeting seems to have been but a repetition of that which was held in Dundas some weeks ago, and which was reported in these columns, the grievances of the parties concerned being fully explained, it is unnecessary for us to give any lengthy report of this second meeting. We append the resolutions which were adopted:

Moved by Mr. Cline, seconded by Mr. L. Mills, and resolved, That this meeting is of opinion that no nets or seines should be drawn inside of Burlington Bay or Dundas Marsh, nor within one-quarter of a mile of the entrance to the Burlington Canal, and that the Chairman be authorized to memorialize the Government to have the Fishing regulations so amended.

Moved by Mr. William Hopkins, seconded by Mr. John Blaine, and resolved, That a memorial be prepared and forwarded to the Hon. the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (through Thomas Bain, Esq., M. P.,) setting forth the injustice of the present fishery laws and enactments so far as the Burlington Bay and adjacent waters are concerned, and that the same may be amended so as to render justice to all parties. That this meeting nominate the following gentlemen to compose a committee to prepare said memorial: Messrs. William Hopkins, Dr. McMahon, Henry Binkley, David Bickell and Joseph Cline.

It is worthy of remark as being rather singular that Mr. Kerr, the Inspector of Fisheries, who had been formally invited to attend this meeting, failed to put in an appearance:

The committee named will meet this (Thursday) evening, at Bamberger's Half-way-House to prepare the memorial referred to in the second resolution.

## HAMILTON.

### Enforcement of the Fishery Laws—Scientific Evidence as to Poisoning of Fish—Proposed Trout Pond—A Disputed Boat Race—County Board Examinations.

From Our Own Correspondent.]

HAMILTON, July 17.—I have before mentioned that Mr. Parsons, owner of oil works here, and Mr. Atkinson, owner of the Clark pork factory, were lately fined \$50 each, on complaint of Mr. T. W. Kerr, Overseer of Fisheries, to the effect that fish in the bay were poisoned by refuse matter from the factories. In the pork factory case notice of appeal was given, so, I suppose, we will soon have it tried over again. A complaint was also preferred against Mr. Williams, of fish being poisoned by petroleum distillery refuse, and the Magistrate, considering the charge proven, fined Mr. Williams, but only in the amount of \$10, in view of the fact that he had taken precautions for the future. Mr. Kerr, it appears, had determined to fortify his case with good scientific evidence, and for that purpose took about a gallon of the stuff that was running from the petroleum distillery spout into the waters of the inlet near at hand, and gave it to Dr. Mackintosh to be tested. Dr. Mackintosh reports that the liquid given him had petroleum floating on the top, underneath which was water having a decidedly acid reaction. His second report, embracing the results of experiments on fish, is as follows:—

"The series of experiments referred to in the following report consisted of eight distinct tests as to the effects of different liquids and chemicals on living fish.

"The kind of fish used was the stone minnow, allowed by all anglers to be the hardiest variety of small fish.

"No. 1. Fish placed in pure water were alive and healthy looking after six hours.

"No. 2. Fish placed in the same quantity of water with about one hundred and fiftieth part of commercial sulphuric acid, got sickly immediately—in five minutes dead and bleached looking.

"No. 3. Fish placed in the same quantity of water and about one five hundredth part of sulphuric acid—dead in fifteen minutes and slightly bleached.

"No. 4. Fish placed in same quantity of water with about one thousandth part of sulphuric acid—dead in forty-five minutes, not perceptibly bleached.

"No. 5. Fish placed in water referred to in first report as having been taken from Sherman's Inlet and filtered, fish almost dead in two hours, and being placed in clear water did not survive, but died in a few minutes.

"No. 6. Fish placed in the washings of refuse of coal oil, referred to in first report; fish very sickly in an hour; in four hours still alive; when placed in clean water turned belly up and floated, but revived and was brisk in twenty minutes.

"No. 7. Fish placed in clean water with a film of refuse like the crude oil found in the inlet fish lively for half an hour; sickly soon after, and dead in two hours.

"No. 8. Fish placed in the same quantity of water with a film of crude oil without chemicals—lively for nearly an hour; afterwards kept to the surface of the water; dead in two hours.

"The fish mentioned in No. 6 experiment cleaned with hot and cold water, and boiled along with other fish—two waters and salt, for ten minutes—smelt of coal oil very distinct, taste of coal oil very disagreeably felt in all the fish, but more so in those which had been killed by the water from the inlet. Temperature of the air in room 62° Fahr.

"D. MACKINTOSH, M.D., Edin.

"Hamilton, July 18, 1873"

From the above it would appear as settled that petroleum and its products make very unhealthy "food for fishes."



